

Hafa Adai!

Labor: Education to play 'crucial' role in CW transition.

» PAGE 2

Coast Guard cutter brings supplies to Rota.

» PAGE 8

Saipan Tribune

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THE CNMI'S FIRST
DAILY NEWSPAPER

75¢



Family members become emotional as they lay flowers and offer silent prayers on the grave of a fallen loved one during the Memorial Day ceremony at the CNMI Veterans Cemetery on Monday.

JOEL D. PINAROC

By JOEL D PINAROC
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REPORTER

The Commonwealth community paid tribute to its fallen patriots in a simple yet solemn Memorial Day ceremony at the CNMI Veterans Cemetery yesterday.

Wreaths, flowers, and prayers were offered by families, friends, brothers, and sisters in front of the grave markers of the fallen patriots, as their names were called one by one.

The ceremony culminated in a short march and the presentation of a ceremonial wreath inscribed with the words "In valor there is love," followed by a 21-gun salute.

A solitary trumpet player played the 24 notes of "Taps" as soldiers saluted their fallen comrades.

"I am honored to be here with the island leaders, fellow service members, and our families to remember the heroes who made the ultimate sacrifice for our great nation," said Rear Adm. Bette Bolivar, Commander, Joint Region Marianas and U.S. Pacific Command's Defense Representative for the CNMI, in her keynote speech.



"If not for our fallen airmen, coast guardsmen, soldiers, sailors, and Marines, we would not be here today. We would not know what freedom is. Though the cemetery is young, having just been constructed during our most recent Iraq and Afghanistan wars, it already holds so many loved ones who have served our country," she said.

Bolivar gave tribute to Chamorro and Carolinian scouts who assisted the American soldiers who came to Saipan during World

War II, as well as soldiers killed in Iraq.

"Men like Gregorio Camacho Cabrera, the first service member buried at this cemetery. He assisted in convincing locals to leave their hiding places in the caves of Mt. Tapochau, Kagman, and Marpi. Cristino Sablan Dela Cruz, who provided Marines with the locations of critical supplies hidden by the Japanese, and who was later awarded a Purple Heart with Gold Star Medal in 2000, and Santiago Babauta, who traveled to the Northern Mariana Islands on an American battleship to assist in the removal of

See HEROES on Page 4

INSIDE



LOCAL

More candidates are still being sought for the 2015 Liberation Day queen.

» PAGE 7



NATION

Record rainfall wreaks havoc across a swath of Texas and the Midwest.

» PAGE 15



LIFE & STYLE

Jacques Audiard's "Dheepan" takes the 68th Cannes Film Festival's Palme d'Or.

» PAGE 20



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Local

Labor: Education to play 'crucial' role in CW transition

By DENNIS B. CHAN
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REPORTER

The importance of realigning education in the CNMI with workforce training goals were underscored in a CNMI Department of Labor report on "Foreign Worker Transition Initiatives."

Finalized in April, this report includes, among other

initiatives, an emphasis on job fairs and enforcement of labor rules.

A drastic shortfall of local capacity is expected when the contract worker period expires in 2019. With this in the horizon, public and private agencies have discussed efforts to meet this impending change.

Labor, under the education initiative section of its report,

highlighted the Public School System's Cooperative Program, or "co-op" program as "crucial" to enable businesses to cope with the projected worker shortfall.

Co-op is designed to help prepare high school graduates for the job market. Students participate on-site as a "trainee" at a business.

Labor said the "overall

vice providers.

Deleon Guerrero explained that anytime BSI enters into any kind of agreement, including a lease with a landlord, the commission needs to review it, as per the commission's regulations.

But if it's just a landlord-tenant agreement, the regulators might not need to review it, he said.

Commissioner Martin San Nicolas stressed that anytime the casino licensee conducts a transaction involving money, the commission needs to know about it.

"We are just doing our job and making sure that funds are not going through different channels," he said.

San Nicolas said BSI cannot just insert confidentiality clauses on agreements that the licensee signs and that procedures need to be followed with the regulator—in this case the casino commission.

Deleon Guerrero echoed the same sentiment, saying that BSI cannot just tell regulators that an agreement is "confidential."

Saipan Tribune tried to obtain comments from a BSI representative but he declined to respond to queries.

numbers of student placement in the co-op program are more attracted to the private sector industry.

"The co-op program offers high school students a competitive advantage in the job market by providing them with

on-site training and workforce skills, while reducing training costs to employers.

See **LABOR** on Page 4

Regulators want complete info on casino layout, security setup

By JOEL PINAROC
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REPORTER

The Commonwealth Casino Commission has asked Best Sunshine International, Ltd. to keep the regulator up-to-date on whatever changes the exclusive Saipan casino licensee will make to its gaming floor.

Best Sunshine is currently in the process of setting up its "live-training facility" at the T Galleria in Garapan. The facility is expected to open sometime in June or July, according to BSI chief executive officer Mark A. Brown.

A training school at the adjacent Bank of Guam building in Garapan is set to open prior to the opening of the live-training facility. Those who will be hired will be trained at the school before being deployed to the temporary casino.

Commission executive director Edward C. Deleon Guerrero said the regulators will have to be provided the latest changes—if there are any—on the ca-

sino floor being built, including the placing of security cameras and general layout of the tables.

Deleon Guerrero said the regulators "just want to be updated" on CCTV cameras, number of tables, what kind of table games will be used, among others.

He explained that casino service providers may have to undergo certifications from the regulator.

BSI representatives said they will provide the necessary requirements.

The commission earlier it wants BSI to send copies of its lease agreements.

The commission said the lease deals it wants to see includes the lease that BSI signed for the Garapan property where it plans to build its first hotel and casino and the lease for the "temporary live training facility" at the T Galleria.

Deleon Guerrero said the commission wants to review the leases and check if the lessors can be classified as casino ser-

vice providers.

Commissioner Martin San Nicolas stressed that anytime the casino licensee conducts a transaction involving money, the commission needs to know about it.

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Deleon Guerrero echoed the same sentiment, saying that BSI cannot just tell regulators that an agreement is "confidential."

Saipan Tribune tried to obtain comments from a BSI representative but he declined to respond to queries.

June 13 is Free Comic Book Day

Green Flash Comics on Saipan is one of the thousands of comic book shops around the world celebrating the biggest day in the comic book industry and comic art form on June 13, a Saturday. Every year on Free Comic Book Day, over 4.6 million comic books are given away by participating stores, introducing as many people as possible to the wonders of comic books!

"The wide array of comic books being published today ensures that readers of all ages—children, teens, and adults—can find something appropriate that will stir their imaginations" said Glenn Keaton, owner of Green Flash Comics.

Celebrating its 13th year, Free Comic Book Day has proven to be a smashing success, spreading the word that comics are a terrific read.

"Even if you have never picked up a comic book, stop by Green Flash Comics in Garapan, because you never know what you will end up finding," said Keaton.

"We at Green Flash Comics want to spread the word that comics are perfect for today's times," Keaton said. "Comic books, mangas, and graphic novels are considered a hot form of entertainment, that are fun and a smart pick for readers to dive into as imagination comes to life with the turn of

'Welding defects' on Tank 102 project

Some welding defects have been detected on the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.'s Tank 102 project.

Speaking before the utilities board at a recent meeting, CUC counsel James Sirok said that X-rays taken indicated weld defects on the tank floor.

According to Sirok, they worked with the project's construction manager, Gilbane Federal, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency on the matter.

According to him, the X-rays

revealed a "number of defects," and EPA would provide the certificate for the welders who would work on this issue.

Last December, Gilbane Federal was selected by the U.S. District Court to expeditiously complete some CUC projects ordered by a 2009 stipulated order.

The Tank 102 project involves a 500,000-gallon diesel fuel tank that will replace Tank 010, which has been found to be a source of pollution and is non-repairable. (Dennis B. Chan)

every page. Comic books and manga characters have propelled to the front ranks of pop culture, with many of the characters and stories being adapted into blockbuster movies. Free Comic Book Day has been and will continue to be a big day in the comic book world."

Regular updates, information about comic books, and a list of participating publishers and their free comics are all online at www.freecomicbookday.com.

Free Comic Book Day kicks off at 9:30am at the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library and runs until 11:30am at that location. It then continues from 12pm until 7pm at Green Flash Comics on Beach Road in Garapan. Call Keaton, owner of Green Flash Comics, at (670) 233-0899, or Rosalyn Ajoste at the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library at (670) 235-7329 for more information. (PR)

Current marine mammal take expires in Aug.

Authorizations for the U.S. Navy's current taking or harassment of marine mammals in the "Marinas Island Range Complex" will expire in August.

This is the final environmental impact statement for the Marianas Islands Training and Testing, or MITT, area was released over the weekend.

The MITT renews and expands training already established in impact documents for the "Marianas Island Range Complex."

Incidental to Navy activity would be the harassment of thousands of marine mammals. The National Marine Fisheries Service, or NMFS, would have to approve this.

Joint Region Marianas public affairs officer Lt. Timothy Gorman told *Saipan Tribune* that the NMFS MMPA Final Rule and Letter of Authorizations will expire Aug. 3.

Gorman clarified that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's biological opinion for these previous studies do not have expiration.

Meanwhile, with the recent release of the MITT, a "record of decision" signed by the Secretary of the Navy "can come any time after the 30-day period" following last Saturday's release, according to Gorman.

An authorization of marine mammal taking is expected after this.

The MITT EIS covers, among others, sonar, deep-sea, "urban warfare," and ordnance training on the islands of Guam, Rota, Saipan, Tinian, and Farallon de Medinilla. (Dennis B. Chan)

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Govt set to open bids on draft EIS consulting project

By JOEL D. PINAROC
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REPORTER

The Inos government is set to open today the sealed bids of potential consultants to review a draft environmental impact statement on "live-fire" training exercise on Tinian and Pagan.

Press secretary Ivan Blanco said the Office of Procurement and Supply will deliver the six sealed bids to the Office of the Governor today.

"We will open the bids, and hopefully by the end of the day, shortlist the bidders," Blanco said.

A government-assigned review team will then go over the bids and make the necessary recommendations to Gov. Eloy S. Inos.

Blanco hopes the selection of the winning bidder will be completed "this week."

The governor is also the expenditure authority on the funds that will be used for the winning bid.

Last week, the Inos administration disclosed that six consultants have submitted their bids for the project to the Office of Procurement and Supply.

According to Blanco, three of the six bidders are from off-island while three are local. The six bidders beat the May 6 deadline.

Once the bids are opened, the government will start a review of the proposals.

Blanco said the government hopes to select the winning bid by next week, as Inos wants to expedite the process of selecting the consultant.

"Personally for me, the contract should be out by next week. At least we have a company that the government can award the proposal to," Blanco said.

Once the winning bid is selected, government representatives will sit down and work out a schedule of payments and the expected deliverables. A contract will then be drawn for the two entities to sign.

In April, the government announced it will issue a request for proposals for a third-party contractor or consultant for the draft EIS review.

The government has also released the scope of work for the potential consultant who will have advisory functions.

The government said it is seeking "consultant services to ensure that the Office of the Governor thoroughly understands the DEIS, its potential positive and negative impacts, and all substantive options, including legal remedies if agreements and other mitigation measures with the military are unable to be reached."

One of the primary goals of the advisory consultant is to "ensure that the Office of the Governor is well-versed on the relevance of the DEIS and has a comprehensive understanding and appreciation of how the Department of Defense proposed action impacts the CNMI, including the direct and indirect impacts, especially those that

are less obvious and potentially harmful over the long-term operation of live-firing (high explosives) training ranges."

The advisory consultant is

also expected to ensure and enable the Office of the Governor "to make informed decisions on behalf of the CNMI."

The consultant is expected to

provide a "reasonable analysis" of the draft EIS and provide counsel and recommendations.

The Department of the Interior earlier awarded a technical

assistance grant of \$250,000 to the Office of the Governor to hire environmental experts to review the draft EIS.

The funds are appropriated

by Congress and allow the department to respond to "critical needs in the insular areas for which local funds are not available."

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328 students graduate at UOG spring commencement

The University of Guam celebrated the accomplishments of the largest graduating class in its history. UOG conferred 328 degrees, of which, 270 were undergraduate degrees and 58 were graduate degrees during Spring 2015 Commencement Ceremonies at the UOG Calvo Field House on Sunday.

The largest number of graduates came from the UOG School of Business and Public Administration, which conferred 130 degrees—99 undergraduate degrees from Business Administration, Accounting, Public Administration and Criminal Justice and 31 graduate degrees from its Professional Master of Business Administration and Mas-

ter of Public Administration programs.

The valedictorian was Special Education major Cassandra Dimla. In her speech, she noted the importance of working with others and learning how to succeed together. “Call it a clan, call it a network, call it a tribe, call it a family. Whatever you call it, whoever you are, you need one. None of us would be where we are today without our constant supporters pushing us,” she said.

During the ceremony, Frank Rabon received an honorary Master of Creative and Traditional Micronesian Knowledge for his lifetime of work in Chamorro dance. After brief remarks, his group *Fafanagueñ*

Pa'a Taotao Tano performed a chant, which stirred the capacity crowd in the Calvo Field House.

Commencement speaker David Cruz, a cast member of Bravo TV's *The Millionaire Matchmaker*, exhorted students to “never let anyone tell you that your voice is not important or that your voice is ridiculous or too small. Each of your voices were carefully crafted and polished in these halls for you to take out into the world...Never apologize for using that voice either. Being able to challenge the status quo is the cornerstone of change in history.”

The second commencement speaker was Jim Obergefell, the plaintiff in *Obergefell v. Hodges*, the landmark marriage equality

case currently before the U.S. Supreme Court. Recalling his remarkable journey beginning as a teacher of the German language to walking through the halls of the U.S. Supreme Court and presenting his testimony, Obergefell said, “My younger self would be surprised at what I’ve done, and the fact that I’ve had an impact far beyond a high school classroom. I’m pretty sure my younger self would be proud of the man I’ve become.” His hope for each student was they would be proud of the man or woman they become.

For more on the University Spring 2015 Commencement Ceremonies, visit www.uog.edu/spring-2015-commencement. (UOG)

For more on the University Spring 2015 Commencement Ceremonies, visit www.uog.edu/spring-2015-commencement. (UOG)

▲ University of Guam students take a selfie after a graduation ceremony on Friday at the UOG Calvo Field House.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Bordallo statement on Memorial Day

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Madeline Z. Bordallo issued the following statement in recognition of Memorial Day:

“Each Memorial Day, we pause to honor the men and women who serve our nation in uniform and remember those who paid the ultimate sacrifice in defense of our freedom. We owe these brave men and women a debt of gratitude for the sacrifices they make every day so that we can enjoy the liberties and opportunities that we have today.

“In a special way, today we honor our fallen heroes who gave their lives to protect our way of life. Here on Guam, we know all too well the sacrifices made by our Soldiers, Sailors, Marines, Airmen and Coast Guardsmen and their families. Our sons and daughters from

Guam have answered our nation’s call to serve, and we also honor our veterans who have served with honor. Brave men and women from Guam have served our nation in every conflict since World War II, and many continue to serve with distinction both here at home and around the world. We give them and their families our

deepest thanks.

“On this Memorial Day, we honor our fallen heroes and we cherish the memory of their sacrifice to protect our way of life. We also pray for the safe return of our sons and daughters who serve in harm’s way around the world. Let us recommit ourselves to ensuring that our nation and our community provide for our servicemembers, veterans and their families in a manner that is worthy of the sacrifices they have made for our nation and our island. God bless our men and women in uniform. God bless Guam. God bless the United States of America.” (Office of the Delegate)

LABOR

From Page 2

“This is a crucial element to the successful transition of the CNMI job market post-2019, as 15 [percent] of high school graduates enter the labor force following graduation,” the report said.

Turning to the Northern Marianas College, Labor noted that 61 percent of CNMI public school graduates enter college.

“Many choose to attend” NMC, Labor said, noting that NMC’s Strategic Plan for 2015-2020 helps build the “necessary and professional skills of the CNMI labor force.”

The college’s five-year goals are to increase the college’s relevance to the CNMI workforce and community needs, ensure continued accreditation, accelerate time to complete, improve student success and support, and strengthen operations and resource development.

Labor also highlighted the Northern Marianas Technical Institute’s more than a dozen programs that are “aligned with the needs of the CNMI” to train and prepare U.S. citizens and other permanent residents for jobs in the local economy.

Celebrating Asian Pacific Islander Heritage Month in Pohnpei

HONOLULU—What have you done to observe Asian Pacific Islander Heritage Month in May? Of the 75 employees in the Pacific Islands Area, we employ 34 Asian Pacific Islanders that work in 14 different offices, helping people help the land.

One example of how the United States Department of Agriculture’s Natural Resources Conservation Service partners with others is assisting the Pohsoain TeleFood Project. On Pohnpei, a farmer workshop was held recently at the Wone

Village in the Federated States of Micronesia. Pacific Islander Rodasio Samuel of NRCS taught proper use and care of backpack sprayers, along with some tips on seed varieties, supply and marketing. Similar workshops will continue on a monthly basis with the local farmers, helping to build capacity, crop productivity and sustainable farms.

“We appreciate the contributions and dedicated work of our staff, especially for all that they are doing to help our customers,” said Bruce Petersen,

NRCS Director of the Pacific Islands Area.

The 2015 Presidential Proclamation states, “The rich heritage of Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders spans the world and the depths of America’s history.” We are encouraged to celebrate the contributions and remember the impact of those who led the way towards progress, equal treatment, and a better future. “Together, let us recommit to embracing the diversity that enriches our Nation and to ensuring all our people

have an equal chance to succeed in the country we love,” President Barack Obama.

As NRCS celebrates 80 years of helping people help the land, NRCS continues to provide conservation technical assistance to private land owners. In addition, conservation financial assistance is also administered by NRCS through the Farm Bill. Farmers and ranchers can learn more about programs and services available from NRCS by visiting www.pia.nrcs.usda.gov. (USDA)

actions. When he died in Oct. 31, 2005, he was only 28.”

“Then there’s Robert Jason Deleon Guerrero, a U.S. Army sergeant. He had been honorably discharged from the service, but he carried the selfless spirit over into his civilian life. When he died in 2012, he donated seven of his organs—including his heart, liver and pancreas—so that others may live.”

“As we remember today those we have lost, those who have valiantly served, and those who continue the fight, let us give them thanks for the lives we lead and for the lives of our generations,” Bolivar said.

For Gov. Eloy S. Inos, Memorial Day is a day to commemorate the ultimate sacrifice

for fallen heroes for freedom and peace.

“On these hallowed grounds, we celebrate and solemnly reaffirm, from year to year, our nation’s endearing faith that life and liberty are profound principles which define our country, and who we are.”

In his speech, Inos added that “In order to preserve our principles of life and liberty, we have fought wars on our own soils and abroad, from the shores of Normandy, the shores of Saipan, Vietnam, Iraq, Afghanistan, and so on.”

In a statement, Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) said, “As we honor the men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice for our country, we

should also remember to show our gratitude for those who are still fighting for us, and to make sure our nation’s veterans are not forgotten when they return home.”

Patriotic

A woman, who declined to be named, said she goes to the Monday ceremony each year to visit the grave of a relative at the Veteran’s Cemetery.

Although the woman, who is in her 60s, did not name the fallen soldier, she did say that her youngest son, who is now in his 20s, will be joining the U.S. Navy “very soon.”

“I have three children and my youngest chose to join the service. I’ve been living on Saipan

for 31 years now and I have seen many of our young men and women go to serve the military,” she said.

Rep. Angel Demapan (R-Saipan), who was the master of ceremonies, said Memorial Day remains very important to remember the sacrifices of the CNMI’s fallen heroes.

“It reminds us, that in the Commonwealth, we are as patriotic as mainland America, and we wear that on our sleeves very proudly,” Demapan, himself a former service member, said in an interview.

Demapan said on a per capita basis, the CNMI continues to deploy the highest number of enlisted men and women in the military.

'Lots of questions in Jack's death need answers'

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

A lot of questions need to be answered behind the death of 18-year-old Traina Suda Jack, according to Department of Public Safety Commissioner James C. Deleon Guerrero.

In an interview on Friday, Deleon Guerrero said they are hoping that Guam chief medical examiner Dr. Aurelio Espinola's forensic analysis would reveal something of the circumstances behind Jack's

6 vehicles burglarized in Chinatown

Six vehicles parked in an apartment in Chinatown were burglarized early Friday morning and cash, items, and documents were stolen.

The burglary was discovered at about 6am when a parent, who was about to bring a child to school, noticed that their car had been damaged and some items were missing, *Saipan Tribune* learned.

All burglarized vehicles were in the parking lot of the three-story B&R Apartment near a Korean church.

The suspect or suspects man-

NMC board takes no stance—for now—on Higher Ed Commission proposal

By DENNIS B. CHAN
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REPORTER

Despite a request from the college management, the Northern Marianas College Board of Regents did not vote to support or oppose a House bill that would essentially declare the Northern Marianas Technical Institute a recipient of public funds.

The bill, H.B. 19-04, would establish a "Higher Education Commission" with the intent of creating charter schools and an "Adult Vocational and Continuing Education Charter School." The bill names this vocational and charter school to be NMTI.

The college, which previously commented on different versions of this bill, brought the issue to the board on Friday to seek a clear position.

Board regent Elizabeth Rechabai disclosed that that "Legislature is interested to know" the board's position on the matter.

College president Dr. Sharon Hart called H.B. 19-04 "a critical one," urging the board to take a stand on it, whether to support, oppose, or remain neutral.

Hart stressed that it needs to be learned "what impact would [the bill] have on" the college and its fiscal stability.

NMC External Relations director Frankie Elliptico said the previous boards' direction had been sometimes "nebulous" and urged for a clearer position on the matter.

Regent William Torres disclosed, though, that he learned right before their meeting that the bill they had before them

death, and answer the many questions that these circumstances raise, such as why the remains were in a jungle.

Deleon Guerrero, however, stated that the analysis takes time as it all depends on the extent of analysis Espinola has to perform in order for them to arrive at a conclusion.

Espinola's autopsy did not reveal any type of identifiable trauma on the bones such as fracture, stab, or gunshot. He, however, stated that further microscopic analysis on

aged to enter the cars by breaking the rear vent windows.

A resident said the burglary possibly happened at 4am because the alarm in one of the affected cars went off at that time.

This was the first time that cars at the B&R Apartment had been burglarized.

Saipan Tribune, however, learned that a similar burglary of cars happened also at an apartment along Beach Road, Garapan in the last few weeks.

Police have yet to release information about these incidents. (Ferdie de la Torre)

bone fragments from the skull is needed to determine Jack's cause of death.

Espinola positively identified the remains as that of Jack's, using a photograph that showed

her dental features.

Deleon Guerrero declined to comment on the recovery of an electric cord, measuring about two and half feet, last Thursday, bolstering their belief that Jack may have been strangled. They

also recovered pieces of bones during the sifting the soil in the jungle area, where the remains were found last May 11.

Jack was last seen on Oct. 22, 2014.

Last week for spay/neuter services

By JAYSON CAMACHO
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REPORTER

Mayor David M. Apatang is urging the community to avail of sterilization services being provided to pet owners for their dogs.

The program, which sterilizes through spaying (female), neutering, and neuterin (males) for dogs, ended its first week at the Animal Shelter in Lower Base after a two-day adoption pro-

gram from May 22 to 23.

Apatang said the services will now continue at the Kagman Community Center near the fire station.

A team of veterinarians, animal technicians, volunteers, and staff from the Saipan Mayor's Office Dog Control Program, Animal Balance, and Humane Society International will be in Kagman this week.

There were no sterilization services held yesterday, May

25, due to Memorial Day.

As of last week, more than a 100 dogs have already been sterilized on Saipan.

This Friday, the program will be returning to Lower Base.

Animal Balance plans to continue the program for the next four years to sustain the momentum.

Pet owners who avail of these treatments are being asked to make a \$25 donation to offset surgical supply costs. However, the program is free and no dogs will be turned away.

The sterilization services is part of an ongoing campaign by Animal Balance, the Saipan Mayor's Office, Humane Society International, and Humane Society U.S. to control the dog population on the island.

To control the runaway dog population in the Commonwealth, Animal Balance aims to sterilize 70 percent of the estimated 22,000 dogs on the island. After that, residents will start seeing a decline in the local dog population.

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PH consulate on Saipan for 5-day mobile outreach

By FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA
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REPORTER

About 3,500 voter's identification cards and more than 300 passports of Filipinos on Saipan are being released at the ongoing mobile consular outreach of the Philippine Consulate General at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe.

Almost 200 IDs have already been released since the mission started last Sunday.

"Before we left for Saipan, the box from [the Philippines' Commission on Election] arrived. These are the IDs of those who registered from 2009 to 2012," Consul Edgar Auxilian said.

Auxilian added, however, that they weren't able to receive the cards of some of those who registered in that period. Many are worried that they won't be able to vote if they don't have that ID but Auxilian assured that the voter's ID is not a requirement prior to voting as



FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA
Staff of the Philippine Consulate General in Guam and members of the United Filipino Organization distribute about 3,500 voter's IDs that were sent by the Philippines' Commission on Election. Voter's IDs for releasing are for those who registered from 2009 to 2012.

Man pleads guilty to attempted rape in 2002, asks court to set aside conviction

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A citizen of the Federated States of Micronesia who served two years in prison after pleading guilty to attempted rape now wants the Superior Court to set aside his 2002 conviction because his then-counsel allegedly failed to advise him that his guilty plea would render him deportable.

Seremea Issy Nowell, 54, through counsel Pamela Brown Blackburn, submitted an emergency petition for a writ of error coram nobis to vacate his conviction.

A writ of error coram nobis refers to an extraordinary court order that is issued only where the circumstances compel such action to achieve justice.

Blackburn said the writ "provides a remedy for those suffering from the lingering collateral consequences of an unconstitutional or unlawful conviction based on errors of fact and egregious legal errors."

Blackburn said that in Nowell's case, then assistant public defender Jeffrey A. Moots advised Nowell to agree to a plea deal where he would plead guilty to attempted rape, a felony, in exchange for the dismissal of three other criminal charges.

Nowell agreed to the plea deal and was subsequently sentenced to five years, of which he served two years. Had he been found guilty of all charges, he faced a maximum sentence of life imprisonment and a maximum fine of \$5,000.

Blackburn said that unknown to Nowell, however, his guilty plea made him deportable un-

der both CNMI immigration law, which were applicable at the time, and under federal law, which became applicable on Nov. 28, 2009.

Blackburn said at the time of the plea, Nowell was a citizen of FSM and was an immediate relative of a U.S. citizen, which was the equivalent of a lawful permanent resident under federal immigration laws.

Nowell had resided in the CNMI since the early 1990s and had adopted a U.S. citizen son, who is now 9 years old.

Nowell had no prior criminal convictions or arrests and has had none since his release from prison in 2004. His entire family is either in the U.S. or deceased.

Nowell has only distant relatives in the State of Chuuk, FSM. His home island of Mama is a weeklong boat ride from the main island of Weno.

Blackburn said to allow the 2002 guilty plea without being properly advised of any adverse immigration consequences constituted a violation of the NMI Constitution, the Sixth Amendment and the Commonwealth Rules of Criminal Procedure.

In his declaration, Nowell said that, on Feb. 5, 2002, he met Moots outside the courtroom and the lawyer told him to plead guilty because he has no choice since it was his last court appearance.

"When I tried to object, Mr. Moots said this was my only chance," Nowell said.

He claimed that Moots never explained the plea agreement that Moots told him to sign on Feb. 6, 2002, when they entered the courtroom.

"In fact, this was the first time that I ever saw the agreement," he said.

Nowell said he does not believe that he was properly advised by Moots because if he knew that he would face deportation because of a guilty plea, he would have fought the case.

In his removal case, Nowell informed the U.S. Immigration Court that he suffers from diabetes and hypertension and that doctors diagnosed his condition as serious, possibly resulting in blindness.

In a written order on Jan. 13, 2015, Immigration Judge Clarence M. Wagner Jr. ordered that Nowell be removed to FSM.

Wagner said the respondent is statutorily eligible for voluntary departure, but that the voluntary departure should be denied as a matter of discretion.

long as the voter is registered last March, to claim. Otherwise, we will be forced to bring [the voters' list].

» Voter's IDs, passports for releasing; passport application ongoing

Almost 200 passports have also been claimed as of yesterday.

"We really encourage them, those who applied

people who previously applied

to bring [the passports] back to Guam," Auxilian said.

The mission is now processing the passport applications of the 600

for new passports during the March mission.

Those pre-encoded e-passport applicants are given their schedule prior to the mission's arrival so that acquiring their biometrics, photos and other information for the passport will be organized. Some 120 individuals are scheduled each day for the five-day mission that will end on Thursday, May 28.

According to Auxilian, they are also accepting new appointments for passports for their next mission, which will probably be on July. However, they will be reducing their quota to 360 individuals as they will also most likely shorten their next visit to three days.

"We are short on people and July is a busy month for us at the consulate. Some of us will be off-island so we can't afford to leave the consulate without officers and staff," Auxilian said.

Aside from members of the Guam consulate, Honorary Consul Eli Arago and members of the United Filipino Organization were also present at the mission.

Other than the passports and voter's IDs, Filipinos can also ask for authentication, verification and notarization of their documents as well as file updates regarding civil registry like births, deaths or marriages.

US Labor featured at SHRM meeting tomorrow

The Society for Human Resource Management NMI Chapter is pleased to announce its May general membership meeting on the topic of "Recent Labor Audit Issues," which will be presented by Dan Wang and Dean Tenorio of the U.S. Department of Labor. This lunch meeting will be held at the Hyatt Regency Saipan's Giovanni's tomorrow, May 27, 2015, from 11:30am to 1:30pm.

This presentation is open to the public and will be an invaluable opportunity for employers

and employees to learn some of the common labor issues discovered by U.S. Labor in recent cases and audits.

The presentation includes lunch and the cost is \$20 for SHRM members and \$30 for non-members. Seats are limited, so reserve your seat by contacting Micah Parico-Acuavera by phone at 234-1795 or by email at corpooffice@tripleisaipan.com or by email to Frank Gibson at frogibson@yahoo.com.

The Society for Human Resource Management is the

world's largest association devoted to human resource management. The Society serves the needs of HR professionals and advances the interests of the HR profession. Founded in 1948, SHRM has more than 250,000 members in over 140 countries, and more than 575 affiliated chapters. The NMI Chapter is affiliated with the national organization. For more information about the NMI Chapter, you can visit their website at <http://nmichapter.shrm.org>. (SHRM)

SHEFA collects nearly \$38K from scholarship loans

By JAYSON CAMACHO
jayson_camacho@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Saipan Higher Education Financial Assistance has been able to collect a significant amount from loans made by scholars in the last 10 years.

Merissa S. Rasa, administrator for SHEFA, disclosed in her 2014 Annual Report that collections from loan repayment is currently at \$37,969.52, which covers the period from 2004 through 2014.

However, the report indicates that SHEFA began collecting loan repayments only in 2006 and initially collected only \$553.84. A year after, the collection grew to \$3,525.71.

From 2008 through 2010, SHEFA showed an average annual flat rate collection ranging from \$2,000 to \$2,500 per year.

It was in 2011 when the program recorded the highest loan repayment of \$5,745.36 from defaulted scholars. In 2012, the office was able to collect a meager \$666 until 2013, when repayment jumped to \$5,745.36, a .01-cent difference from 2011.

SHEFA rules and policy require that, within three months after successfully completing one's studies or 30 days after termination or non-enrollment from the institution of record, whichever occurs first, the recipient of SHEFA financial as-

sistance must return to Saipan for employment and/or to provide services in the private or public sector on Saipan.

If a former recipient decides to remain and work abroad three months after completion or termination of his or her college studies, the grant assistance becomes a loan that must be repaid. The debtor has to pay the entire debt with equal monthly payments within six years of default.

Despite the collections being meager amounts, its awards per academic year range in the millions.

Rasa disclosed in her report that from 2004 through 2014, the government invested a total

of \$24.63 million to help local students pursue degrees here and abroad.

Total awards provided for the nine-year period is broken down as follows: 2004, \$170,600; 2005, \$1,925 million; 2006, \$2,782 million; 2007, \$2,302 million; 2008, \$3,026 million; 2009, \$3,078 million; 2010, \$3,654 million; 2011, \$2,810 million; 2012, \$1,540 million; 2013, \$1,651 million; and 2014 \$1,691 million.

Only students from Saipan and the Northern Islands are eligible for SHEFA assistance. Funding for this program is sourced from poker and pachinko machines' local license fees.

More candidates being sought for LibDay queen

»Eight candidates vying for title so far

By JAYSON CAMACHO
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REPORTER

Eight candidates have already signed up for the 2015 Liberation Day queen title, according to Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang, but more applicants are still being sought.

"We introduced two of our candidates last Friday after Skywalker Communications Group encouraged the media to be involved in trying to encourage the public to join in on the Liberation Day festivities but we are still accepting applications,"

Zolenska Yaroitemal, 19, and Eloise Lopez, 17, are two of eight candidates vying for the 2015 Liberation Queen title. Picture was taken at the Saipan Mayor's Office last Friday.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



DFEMS plans to recruit 16 cadets for Saipan, Rota

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie.delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services is planning to recruit 16 cadets to become firefighters on Saipan and Rota.

DFEMS Secretary Claudio K. Norita disclosed in an interview on Friday that they are expecting 10 cadets for Saipan and six more for Rota.

For Saipan, Norita said they anticipate a budget for 10 positions come Oct. 1, 2015, while six will be recruited for Rota.

"So right now we're working with [Office of Personnel Man-

agement] to do the announcement," Norita said.

The DFEMS secretary said they are hoping to complete the announcement and selection process and if the budget is passed on Oct. 1, then they can start the academy in mid-October 2015.

"We anticipated and reported this to the Legislature when we did the budget hearing," he said.

The academy is going to run at a maximum of four months. Cadets will undergo basic to advance training plus emergency medical technician training.

Norita said for Saipan,

they're working with the Commonwealth Ports Authority to use their Aircraft Rescue Firefighters training room.

Currently, Saipan has 70 firefighters, Tinian has 11, and Rota has five.

Norita said because of their current budget, the Rota Mayor's Office is recruiting cadets and probably looking at enlisting six.

Norita said the academy on Rota, which will be held at the Northern Marianas College's classroom on the island, may run at the same time as the academy on Saipan.

Conservation in the CNMI

What are the most important issues?
What actions can we take?

DFW invites you to come share your ideas at one of these meetings:

Tinian: Monday, June 1, 6:30-8pm
Tinian Elementary School

Saipan: Tuesday, June 2, 6:30-8pm
Multipurpose Room, Susupe

Rota: Thursday, June 4, 6:30-8pm
Sinapalo Elementary School

Or visit www.cnmidfw.com for a 5-minute online survey. Your input will be included in the 2015 CNMI Wildlife Action Plan.

For more information:
www.cnmidfw.com
(670) 664-6017
liskeclark.cnmidfw@gmail.com



Apatang told *Saipan Tribune* during the Nenpou Shinkyo Buddhist Denomination ceremony last Sunday.

The Hong Kong-based Skywalker Communications is the group handling the festivities "and we're partnering with them...so our office is still committed to be a part of the Liberation Day [festivities], but for more details, Skywalker is the best to get it from," he added.

Zolenska Yaroitemal, 19, and Eloise Lopez, 17, were both present at the meeting on Friday.

There was an earlier announcement that the deadline to apply to become a Liberation Day queen

candidate was on May 15, but Saipan Mayor's Office special assistant Henry Hofsneider said yesterday that Skywalker is still accepting applications from anyone eligible for the Liberation Day queen candidacy.

Hofsneider said that May 27 is the deadline for new applications. This is prior to the sash and pinning ceremony on May 28 at 10am.

Young females from the ages of 16 to 25 years old are encouraged to join and represent their village, family, company, or organization.

The 2015 Liberation Day Royal Court contestant must

be between 16 and 25 years old, female, not married, has no children, a CNMI resident for at least six months and of good moral and ethical character.

Each candidate may have individual sponsors to assist with the costs of competing and each candidate will have the ability to sell Liberation Day raffle tickets to raise funds and host other various approved fundraisers.

Ten percent of each of the candidates' total fundraising proceeds will go to the candidate.

Applications are now available at the Saipan Mayor's Office or via email at liberationcnmi@gmail.com.

Notice of Availability of the Mariana Islands Training and Testing Final Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (EIS/OEIS)



Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (as implemented by the Council on Environmental Quality [CEQ] Regulations [40 Code of Federal Regulations Parts 1500-1508]) and in accordance with Executive Order 12114, the U.S. Navy has prepared a Final EIS/OEIS to evaluate the potential environmental impacts associated with military training and testing activities within the Mariana Islands Training and Testing (MITT) Study Area. The MITT EIS/OEIS is the reevaluation and reauthorization of training and testing activities reviewed in the Mariana Islands Range Complex (MIRC) EIS/OEIS, which the Navy completed with community input in 2010.

Proposed Action: The Navy proposes to conduct training and testing activities, which may include the use of active sonar and explosives, in the MITT Study Area.

The Proposed Action also includes pierside sonar maintenance and testing alongside Navy piers located in Inner Apra Harbor, and land-based training activities at existing ranges and other training locations on Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The purpose of the Proposed Action is to ensure the Navy and other military services accomplish their mission to maintain, train and equip combat-ready military forces capable of winning wars, deterring aggression and maintaining freedom of the seas.

Public Involvement: The completion of the Final EIS/OEIS follows several years of research, analysis and public involvement. The Navy held five public scoping meetings in September 2011 and four public meetings in November 2013 for the Draft EIS/OEIS.

The Final EIS/OEIS includes public comments received during the Draft EIS/OEIS review period and Navy responses to those comments. Regulations provide for a 30-day wait period after the Final EIS/OEIS is published before the Navy may take final action.

The Final EIS/OEIS is available online at www.MITT-EIS.com and at the following public libraries: University of Guam Robert F. Kennedy Memorial Library, Nieves M. Flores Memorial Library, Joeten-Kiyo Public Library, Tinian Public Library and Rota Public Library.

For More Information: Visit the project website at www.MITT-EIS.com or contact: Naval Facilities Engineering Command Pacific, Attention: MITT EIS/OEIS Project Manager, 258 Makalapa Drive, Suite 100, Pearl Harbor, HI 96860-3134

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality

Division of Coastal Resources Management
P.O. Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950
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Frances A. Castro
Director, DCRM



COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

Frances A. Castro
Director, DCRM

PUBLIC NOTICE Of the DCRM AGENCY OFFICIALS MEETING

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, Governor Eloy S. Inos and Lt. Governor Ralph DLG. Torres through the Division of Coastal Resources Management (DCRM) hereby give notice that a DCRM Agency Officials Meeting will be held on **Thursday, May 28, 2015, at 9:30 AM** at the Office of the Mayor, San Jose, Tinian.

AGENDA

- I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS
 - a) Call to Order
 - b) Roll Call
- II. PERMIT APPLICATION
 - 1. PLUMERIA RESORT
 - (CRM Permit Application No.TMS-2015-X-028)
 - a. Project Introduction by Alter City Group, Inc.
 - b. Discussion by DCRM Agency Officials and Director
 - c. Permit Application Status
- III. OTHER MATTERS
- IV. ADJOURNMENT

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Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, Governor Eloy S. Inos and Lt. Governor Ralph DLG. Torres through the Division of Coastal Resources Management (DCRM) hereby give notice that a DCRM Agency Officials Special Meeting will be held on **Friday, May 29, 2015, at 10:00 AM** at the Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality conference room, Suite 205, Gualo Rai Center, Lower Gualo Rai, Saipan.

AGENDA

- I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS
 - a) Call to Order
 - b) Roll Call
- II. PERMIT APPLICATION
 - 1. GRAND MARIANA CASINO and HOTEL RESORT
 - (CRM Permit Application No.SMS-2015-X-029)
 - a. Project Introduction by Micronesian Environmental Services
 - b. Discussion by DCRM Agency Officials and Director
 - c. Permit Application Status
- III. OTHER MATTERS
- IV. ADJOURNMENT

Coast Guard cutter brings supplies to Rota

On May 21, U.S. Coast Guard cutter *Washington* and personnel from Coast Guard cutter *Sequoia* deployed to Rota after the passing of Typhoon Dolphin, in support of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

» Coast Guard cutter provides post-storm support to Rota

The focus of the deployment was to deliver critical Aids to Navigation, or ATON, and Red Cross supplies to the affected island. Cutter *Washington* delivered about 400 lbs of FEMA/Red Cross Disaster Response Kits and canopy covers to Rota's Department of Public Safety while replacing and repairing vital ATON components, such as preferred channel markers and day boards. The prompt response from the cutters' personnel and their professionalism ensured the Rota Port's fast recovery and its return to 24-hour operations. (USCG)

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
U.S. Coast Guard Sector
Guam Humanitarian Assistance arrives on Rota.



Four graduate from DFS Journeyman Program

By FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA
frauleine_villanueva@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Four more graduates were added to the list of DFS' Journeyman after a year of classes and hard work.

Joined by their trainers and colleagues, the four marked their achievement with a graduation ceremony held at the T Galleria hallway last Friday.

Maricel Pangelinan, Natsu Concepcion, Wei Ying "Cathy" Xu, and Ya Ping Yu are the members of the Class of 2015.

"I am very happy that we were able to select four candidates that are so strong and I think they all excel in their areas and I am very, very happy that they graduated. I am very happy that they continued their journey with us," DFS general manager Milan Rabold said.

In her speech, DFS president Marian Aldan-Pierce praised

the achievement of the Journeyman graduates, noting that it is not an easy task to be a part of the class.

To be part of the Journeyman class, interested associates must apply and get the recommendation of their managers and other co-workers.

"Congratulations to this year's graduates. You are now alumni of a very special group of people—you are the elite graduates of a very elite class who are now armed with tools to create truly exceptional customer experiences. Be very proud of what you have accomplished," Aldan-Pierce said.

Each of the graduates took their turn to share their experiences, laughter, tears and gratitude to those who have been there to support them.

"It has been a very big change for me and I am so grateful to be here," graduate Xu said.

"The Journeyman class is a wonderful class. It's not only a benefit for our work but for our lives as well," said graduate Yu.

Just like other graduation ceremonies, they were awarded certificates and moved the tassel on their mortarboards. Some of them even threw their caps on the air.

The Journeyman Program has four classes in a one-year period: observations, working, homework, and exams. Its goal is to continue raising the level of service for customers as well as help other sales associates and new staff.

Member of the next Journeyman class for 2016 were also introduced at the ceremony. Five associates were chosen to be given special trainings this year.

DFS now has 16 Journeyman on the island after three years since introducing the program.

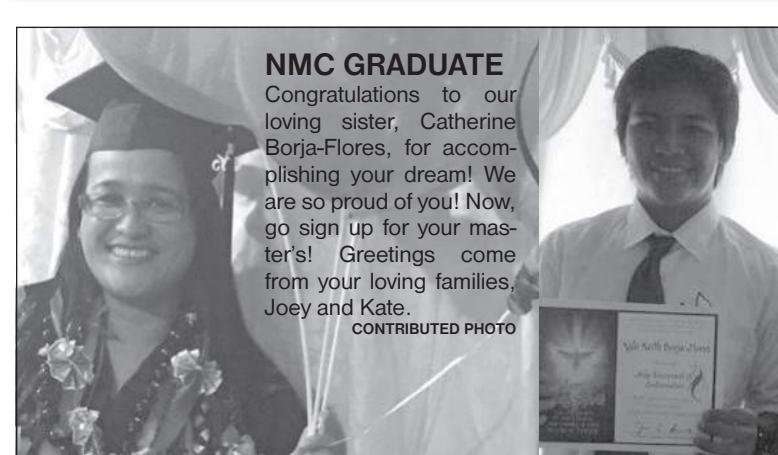


DFS graduates four more Journeyman this year. Members of the Class of 2015 are, from left, Maricel Pangelinan, Natsu Concepcion, Wei Ying "Cathy" Xu, and Ya Ping Yu.



WINNING ENTRY

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Pacifica Insurance Underwriters Inc.'s Hashtag Choose My Picture winning photo entry No. 6 is from Instagrammer @lavenderbaby_237 with caption "Star bright, star light. First star I see tonight..." Winner will be entitled to a free pizza. Pacifica welcomes anyone from the CNMI to tag an infinite amount of photos and videos through Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter the following in order to be eligible: #choosemypicture or #choosemyvideo; #pacificainsurance and #restassured. For further details log on to www.pacificains.com/choosemypicture.



NMC GRADUATE

Congratulations to our loving sister, Catherine Borja-Flores, for accomplishing your dream! We are so proud of you! Now, go sign up for your master's! Greetings come from your loving families, Joey and Kate.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

CONFIRMATION

Congratulations to Kyle Keith Borja Flores on receiving your sacred confirmation! We love you always! Greetings come from Auntie Kate, Uncle Joey, and families.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Memorial Day 2015

Photos by JOEL D. PINAROC



A ceremonial wreath is carried in a short parade. Inscribed in the wreath are the words "In valor there is love."



Rear Adm. Bette Bolivar salutes a young man who was about to give tribute to a fallen family member.



Rear Adm. Bette Bolivar, Commander, Joint Region Marianas, third from left, is joined by leaders and community members of the CNMI in a group photo.



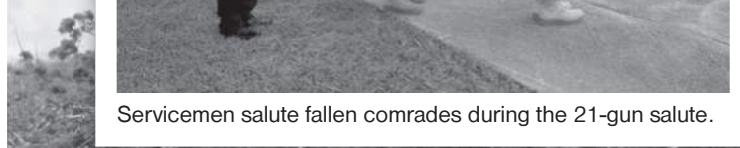
A veteran salutes Rear Adm. Bette Bolivar.



Servicemen salute fallen comrades during the 21-gun salute.



The graves of fallen patriots are adorned with wreaths and flowers at the CNMI Veterans Cemetery during the Memorial Day celebration on Monday.



A woman stands over a grave marker to offer a short prayer.

Opinion

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AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Local blood in the sand

Live fire and explosions are real. War is blind, none is innocent, only casualties. The plaques of residents caught in the fight between U.S. and Japan forces were folks who were adults, teens and infants. Alphabetically with the first here in bold letters on our list (those in parenthesis, middle names at the memorial park), we lift them up this memorial week of remembering.

Acosta, Ada, (Aflague), Agulto, Aguon, Akyama, Alidan, Andon, (Angairo), (Angoco), (Anguirap), (Arceo), (Aren), Arnold, Apatang, Aquino, Arasi, Ari, Arriola, Atalig, (Atoigue), Attao, Ayuyu, **Babauta**, Barcinas, Basa, Bermudes, Billy, (Blanco), Blas, Borja, Boyer, (Bruggemann);

Cabrera, Calvo, Camacho, Campos, Castro, Celis, Cepeda, (Chabran), Charfauros, Chargualaf, Chong, Cho-ki-jo, Concepcion, Crisostomo, Cordoba, Cruz, **Dela Cruz**, de la Torre, Deleon Guerrero, Delos Reyes, Delos Santos, Demapan, Diaz, Dodi, Duenas, **Esteves**, **Fabian**, Faibar, Faisao, Falig, (Fausto), Fejeran, Fitial, Fitipol, Flores, Fujihara;

Mercedarian Sr. **Garate** (MMB), (Garrido), Gogue, (Gumataotao), Guerrero, Guilles, **Hocog**, (Hape), Hondonero, Hosono, Hara, **Igibara**, Igibor, Igimata, Iginoef, Igisaiar, Igi-somar, Igitol, Igencias, Iguel, Ilano, Illano, Iliisari, Iilitayang, Ilo, Imamura, Indalecio, Inos, Itibus, Itilug, Iwashita, Izuka;

Jones, Kaipat, Kamyama, Kani, Kaniki, Kapileo, Kilat, (Kileleman), King, Kisa, Kondo, Kosaka, Kyota, **Lairopi**, (Labaorotag), (Lalifalo), Laniyo, Laraol, (Lasop), (Lian), Liesip, lifoiifo, (Liguat), Limes, Lisua, Litagian, (Litulumar), Lizama, Luan, Lujan;

Maisog, (Magofna), (Maguines), Maligar, Maliti, (Malius), (Maligar), Manahane, Manalisay, Manalo, Mangarero, Manglona (half), Manibusan, Maratita, Marciano, Maram, Masga, (Matagolai), Matantaotao, Matsumoto, Matsunaga, Mendiola, Mesa, Mesngon, Mettao, Miham, Moteisu, (Mulemar), Muleta, Muna, Mundo, Murakami;

Nakatsukasa, (Nabulis), Namauleg, Namaisei, (Nimaisei), Naog, Naputi, Narikawa, (Nebuer), Nededog, (Neisen), Nekeisei, Nekai, Nerigat, Nigan, Norita, **Odai**, Ogarto, Ogo, Oguumuoro, Olaitiman, Olopai, (Olorit), Omar, **Pablo**, Palacios, Pangelinan, Parong, (Pasgual), (Pelero), (Perez), Peter, (Pia), Pialur, Pilae, Pinaula, Pua;

Quidachay, (Quidachai), Quitano, Quitugua, (Quichocho), **Rabago**, Rabauliman, Rabauliman, Rangamar, Rapaito, Pampugao, Rasiang, (Rebuenog), Repeki, Reyes, Rios, Rivera, (Roberto), Rogolifoi, (Roligat), Romolor, Roppul, Rosario, (Ruabutag), Ruak;

Sablan, Sakisat, Salas, San Nicolas, (Santa Maria), Santos, Saralu, Sarmiento, Sarong, Sato, Satur, Saures, Selepeo, Seaman, Shai, Sip, Smith, Sogoligarag, Somol, Somorang, Songao, Songsong, (Soyona), Stein;

Taga, Tagabuel, Taimanao, Taisacan, (Taisague), Taisakan, Taitano, Taitingfong, (Takeda), Taman, Tarope, Tebit, Tebuted, Tenorio, Teregeyo, (Terlaje), Tilipao, Timoner (a Jesuit priest), Tino, Tomol, (Tomomitsu), Torres, Toves, Tudela, Tydingco; **Ulloa**, **Villagomez**, **Wabol**, Warakai, Wesley, and two with unknown surnames, Alfonso and Faustino.

The elevated coconuts are out of place but the noni, citrus, sour sop and citrus trees around the memorial were inspired.

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IT TAKES ONE... to ENJOY the OTHER

Is the American dream really dying?

Sen. Ted Cruz of Texas, who's running for the Republican presidential nomination, issued a stark warning recently.

"Today, for the first time in history, a majority of Americans believe that our kids will have a worse life than we do," Cruz told conservatives in South Carolina. "That has never been true in the history of America until this instant, right now—maybe the most un-American idea you can imagine."

Cruz is right that Americans are in a pessimistic mood. An NBC-Wall Street Journal poll last year found that only 21 percent said they were confident that life would be better for their children's generation; 76 percent said the opposite.

But Cruz is wrong on another important point: There's nothing new about this brand of pessimism. Pollsters have been hearing those sour sentiments from Americans for more than 30 years—even since they started asking the question.

In 1986, for example, 63 percent said in a CBS-New York Times poll that they believed the next generation was unlikely to have a bright future—and that was during Ronald Reagan's presidency, when it was morning in America.

"From 1984 until now, a plurality on almost every survey, and sometimes a majority, has said the next generation would have it worse than this generation," Samuel L. Popkin, a political scientist at the University of California, San Diego, told me a few years ago.

It turns out that as Americans, we don't just share the American dream; we share a tradition of worrying that the dream is slipping away. Voters aren't pessimistic because Barack Obama has been president for six years; they were already pessimistic before Obama entered law school.

And Cruz isn't the first politician to discover this continent—far from it. Walter F. Mondale sounded some of the same themes when he ran against Reagan in 1984. So did Michael S. Dukakis when he ran against George H.W. Bush in 1988. Bill Clinton did too, in 1992. And so did Mitt Romney, when he ran against Obama in 2012.

All of them aimed their campaign against an incumbent in the White House when the economy was sputtering. All of them encouraged voters to think that the party in power was presiding over the loss of the American dream.

The most striking thing about these polls over the last 30 years is how consistent the pessimism has been. Between 1989 and 2014, no poll ever found a majority that believed the next generation would be better off.

The closest we got to euphoria was in early 2000, the last boom year of the Clinton administration, when a plurality of 44 percent saw better times ahead.

Last year, in that same CBS-New York Times poll, 23 percent said they believed the next generation would be better off, 50 percent said it would be worse off, and 23 percent said it would fare about the same as the current generation—dispiriting numbers but roughly average for the last quarter-century.

Those overall numbers do, however, conceal some intriguing

By DOYLE MCMANUS
Los Angeles Times

Doyle McManus is a columnist for the Los Angeles Times. Readers may send him email at doyle.mcmanus@latimes.com



changes. A generation ago, white Americans were more optimistic than nonwhites about the future. Now those numbers have reversed: African-Americans and Latinos see a brighter future for their children than white Americans do.

And people under the age of 30 are more optimistic than older people, despite the daunting job prospects for the millennial generation.

The most pessimistic? Older people, white people and Republicans, with tea party supporters in the lead. The defining feature of the tea party may well be pessimism about the nation's future.

The sources of pessimism appear to have shifted, Popkin told me this week. "In the past, it was more about our place in the world," including fear that "Japan and China were going to be ahead of us," he said. But now, he said, some of the deepest concerns "are cultural in a broad sense ... (including) the college/non-college wage gap and the whole social-gender-race shift."

There's one other surprise in those polls that Cruz should note: Amid all their pessimism, Americans still feel good about a few things.

They still believe, by a large majority, that there is such a thing as an American dream, which most define not as making a lot of money but as achieving financial security and having a successful marriage with children.

Even though they think the country is heading for a troubled future, most think they will succeed themselves—and that their own children will too. (Evidence, perhaps, that parenting is the ultimate act of optimism.)

"Most people think the American dream is harder to attain ... but they still believe they can do it," Karlyn Bowman, a public opinion expert at the conservative American Enterprise Institute, told me.

Notice anything about that list of candidates I mentioned earlier—Mondale, Dukakis, Clinton and Romney? Most of them—the ones who focused most on doom and gloom—lost.

Americans may feel pessimistic about the country as a whole, but they want their president to be an optimist, or at least to sound like one.

Cruz's larger mistake wasn't getting the polling history wrong; it was his focus on fear instead of hope. "We are at the edge of a precipice," he said. "We either pull this country back or we risk losing the greatest country in the history of the world."

I suspect he'll soon discover that focusing on loss isn't a winning strategy.

Science is best hope to feed the world safely and affordably

By MIKE POMPEO
CQ-ROLL CALL

Science, innovation, safety and affordability. Who could oppose United States food policy based on these core principles? Unfortunately, this idea has become unnecessarily controversial in agriculture. The unmerited fear of genetically modified organism crops threatens scientific advancements in biotechnology needed to meet the growing global demand for safe and affordable food.

GMOs play a central role in meeting the challenge of providing affordable and nutritious food to consumers all over the world. By the year 2050, food production needs to increase by 70 percent as the global population increases to a projected 9.6 billion people. Fulfilling this demand will either require massive new water supplies and acreage, or a better approach to using existing resources. GMOs provide the best hope for the latter to occur.

In my home state of Kansas, agriculture is among the largest drivers of the economy, each year producing products valued at more than \$50 billion. Our farmers harvest more than 21 million acres of land and are feeding the world, exporting nearly \$4.9 billion in agricultural products in 2012. GMO products are increasing crop yields, and decreasing water and pesticide usage. Adoption of these crops resulted in a reduction of pesticide use by 46.4 million pounds

in 2003 alone. And crops that require less irrigation would be welcomed in states such as California that are grappling with drought.

The promise of GMOs is even greater in the developing world. In these places of extreme poverty, millions of people struggle with hunger and malnutrition. Vitamin A deficiency is responsible for early blindness in young people and half will die from the absence of this basic vitamin. The White House Office of Science and Technology Policy recently recognized the scientists who created the genetic modification known as Golden Rice—a rice modified to help the body create more vitamin A that could save millions in the developing world.

Despite the current and potential benefits of GMO crops, some activists continue to demagogue this technology and mislead people about its safety. Over the past 25 years, more than 100 research projects involving dozens of independent research groups have affirmed the same findings: Genetically modified foods are safe.

Now opponents of GMOs are pushing for states to pass mandated GMO-labeling laws. This is unnecessary. The safety of GMOs has been proven, and a state-by-state patchwork approach to labeling would only serve to confuse consumers, stigmatize GMO crops and raise food costs. If there is not a health or safety risk, there is no justification for creating mandatory labeling that imposes costs on those who can least afford them, simply to satisfy the food choices of a few.

To reap the benefits of GMO technology, the U.S. must ensure

that decisions about our food system are made based on science, not innuendo. This is why I, along with Rep. G.K. Butterfield, D-N.C., introduced The Safe and Affordable Food Labeling Act. The bill continues to gain strong bipartisan support as it becomes increasingly clear that food labeling should be handled on a federal level. This legislation also has the support of nearly every organization whose duty it is to provide safe and affordable food. Our bill would affirm the Food and Drug Administration's role in managing a science-based approach to food labeling, consistent with our nation's tradition of requiring food labels only for health or safety reasons.

Perhaps just as importantly, SAFLA guarantees consumers' right to know what's in their food. Through a voluntary national certification program, SAFLA will create uniform rules and definitions for foods carrying a GMO-free label, allowing consumers to understand and identify those products that fit their food preferences.

Feeding the world will be one of the greatest challenges of the 21st century. It will be impossible without using scientific advancements and biotechnology. To affordably feed the next billion people, we must have higher yielding crops with even greater nutritional value. America should be at the vanguard of the innovative advances that will make this happen.

Rep. Mike Pompeo is a Republican from Kansas. He wrote this for CQ-Roll Call.

How to give yourself a good talking to

By GINA BARRECA
THE HARTFORD COURANT

During your inner monologues, those little speeches you give to yourself throughout the day, do you address yourself by name?

Scientists say you should.

Writers in *Psychology Today*, *The Harvard Business Review* and *Spirituality and Health* are thrilled by a recent study indicating that men and women who refer to themselves either by name or in the third person are calmer, less stressed and more confident than those who use "I" or "me."

The primary researchers on the effect of pronoun use in how people psyche themselves into (or out of) high-achieving performance are Ethan Kross and Ozlem Ayduk of the University of Michigan. These two are so entirely convinced by the efficacy of positive third-person self-talk, they're doing it to themselves.

In *The Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, they said, "Having observed the power of this subtle shift, both of us now intentionally make use of it. One of us (Ozlem Ayduk) has even been known, when facing a difficult task, to write herself emails using her name. The other (Ethan Kross) regularly prompts his 5-year-old daughter to use her own name in thinking about why she feels distressed when she doesn't get her way."

If you were raised as I was—which can be summed up as, "Exactly the opposite of how Professor Kross is raising his 5-year-old"—hearing your name was not a sign of encouragement. It was a sign you were in trouble. It was not going to lead to an esteem-enhancing moment.

As a result, if I imagine hearing the phrase, "Gina, do you know what you can do?" what leaps to mind are not positive affirmations. What leaps to mind are the things said in bars that

wind up in fistfights.

And if I started emailing myself notes beginning, "Dear beleaguered, nervous and hard-working Gina," when under pressure, nobody around me would see it as a pathway toward better mental health. They would see it as my veering toward the middle-aged lady version of "Fight Club." They would be correct.

Yet, because I hate to think of Gina Barreca as being inflexible, Gina Barreca might start referring to herself in the third person. After all, Gina Barreca wants to benefit from subtle shifts in language helping her become less anxious while aiding her in constructing wiser decisions by allowing for a wider perspective, which, the scientists argue, can be made available by thinking of one's self from a linguistic distance.

For instance, Gina Barreca might want to put distance between herself and the memories of being referred to by her proper name only when it was used as a form of punctuation.

Gina remembers hearing "GINA!" shouted across backyards and over windowsills the way people yell "FIRE!" or "SUPPER!" which, to be fair, was the word that most often followed her being summoned home.

In Brooklyn, as in many cities, it was imperative to call a child by some moniker that could be heard at least a couple of blocks away. There were no Ashleys, Zephyrs or Auroras in the days of shouting across rooftops. Those children would never have made their way home.

(Can you imagine what the repeated shouting of "AURORA!" from a fourth-floor window on a hot July evening would sound like? It would sound like a lion with poorly fitted dentures trying to speak another language. The entire neighborhood would have to shut down because of the laughing.)

Kids were called Pat, Don, Jack, Gail, Bob, Peggy, Johnny and Mike. Due to crammed quarters and Catholicism, it was occasion-

ally necessary to distinguish between the Pats and Mikes, leading to Small Pat and Young Mike, as well as Tall Gail and Big John. At times it sounded medieval. At times it was.

Yet a name was a name was a name. It wasn't an incantation. You said your name out loud only when asked for your ID by an authority figure, and even then you might employ an alias.

Self-satisfaction and self-worth are terrific, but I remain as wary of sweet-talking myself as I would be of accepting overwrought flattery from somebody else.

If I hear, "Good job, Gina," I'm always going to hope that I'm not the only one saying it. I hope Gina doesn't take it personally.

Gina Barreca is an English professor at the University of Connecticut, a feminist scholar who has written eight books, and a columnist for the Hartford Courant. She can be reached through her www.ginabarreca.com.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Let's not repeat mistakes

I write regarding the U.S. military's proposed construction of live-fire ranges and training areas on Tinian and Pagan. As a former CNMI resident and a member of the international community concerned about preserving our collective cultural heritage, I am concerned about the adverse impacts of this proposal. There are few places in the United States that still have intact ecosystems and serve as the traditional homeland of indigenous peoples. My home in Alaska is one such place; Tinian and Pagan share this honor.

I urge the military to remember the long-term impacts resulting from bombing the Marshall Islands from 1946 to 1958. Not only did this result in the U.S. paying billions in compensation, it destroyed a way of life that cannot be replaced. Let's not make the same mistake in the CNMI.

E. Barrett Ristroph, Esq., MRCP
Fairbanks, Alaska

Legalize pot for the right reasons

I had read an article a couple days ago in regards to marijuana legalization. Recently, the neighboring island of Guam has legalized marijuana for much needed funds but what has Saipan done? Nothing, *wala*, or in the native tongues, *taya* or *esor*.

To make a long story short, let's not use our sick people as an excuse to generate needed funds because it can never work. I say let's use our tourism and crime rate as an excuse, you know? When we legalize it for recreational use, we should have strict enforcement and at least have a plan in place to maybe improve our health, safety and education system once the money starts rolling in. I don't think looking to the sick will answer our problems.

Luciano M. Rangamar
Eatonville, WA

Merchant Marine veterans seek their place in history

By BARBARA SHELLY
THE KANSAS CITY STAR

National Maritime Day is May 22, and so I've received a few phone calls and emails from an aging contingent with a plaintive message.

"Don't let them forget the Merchant Marines," they say.

Even this year, when the nation marks the 70th anniversary of the end of World War II, it is too easy to forget the Merchant Marines and the role they played in that global war.

The job of the Merchant Marines was to transport supplies to U.S. troops in war zones, on privately owned vessels that were nationalized for military service.

It was hazardous duty; more than 1,600 ships were sunk or disabled and one of every 26 crew members perished, the highest fatality rate of all the armed services.

As the daughter of a Merchant Marines captain, I grew up hearing about the sea battles. They were not romantic adventures, but horrendous conflagrations.

For all the risks they took, the mariners, as they prefer to be called (never say Marines), were never considered on a par with members of the U.S. Armed Services.

President Franklin Roosevelt wanted Congress to include the Merchant Marines in the groundbreaking legislation known as the GI

Bill of Rights but was overruled by lawmakers. The seamen never received benefits such as college tuition or low-interest home loans.

The mariners weren't recognized as veterans until 1988, when the government was forced to do so by a class-action lawsuit. Today they are entitled to care at VA hospitals and to burial flags.

A push to gain compensation for the benefits denied over the years has largely fizzled out, as the number of World War II Merchant Marine veterans grows ever smaller.

A Kansas City-area veterans chapter, the Mid America Ancient Mariners, has met for years on the first Wednesday of each month at a Denny's restaurant. Attendance is down to about 15 members, I am told.

But they are the ones who understand what it meant to be a Merchant Marine, and what that service meant to the nation. And they worry: Who will remember when they are gone?

And so they call me, or have family members call, because they know I am a Merchant Marine's daughter.

"Don't let them forget the Merchant Marines," they say.

I wish I could assure them that won't happen. But the mariners have always struggled for the respect they deserve, and the quest grows no easier with time.

Barbara Shelly is a columnist for the Kansas City Star. Readers may write to her at: Kansas City Star, 1729 Grand Blvd., Kansas City, Mo. 64108-1413, or by email at bshelly@kcstar.com.

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Partly sunny with isolated showers. East winds 5 to 10 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. Northeast winds 5 to 10 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲ 88° ▼ 76°

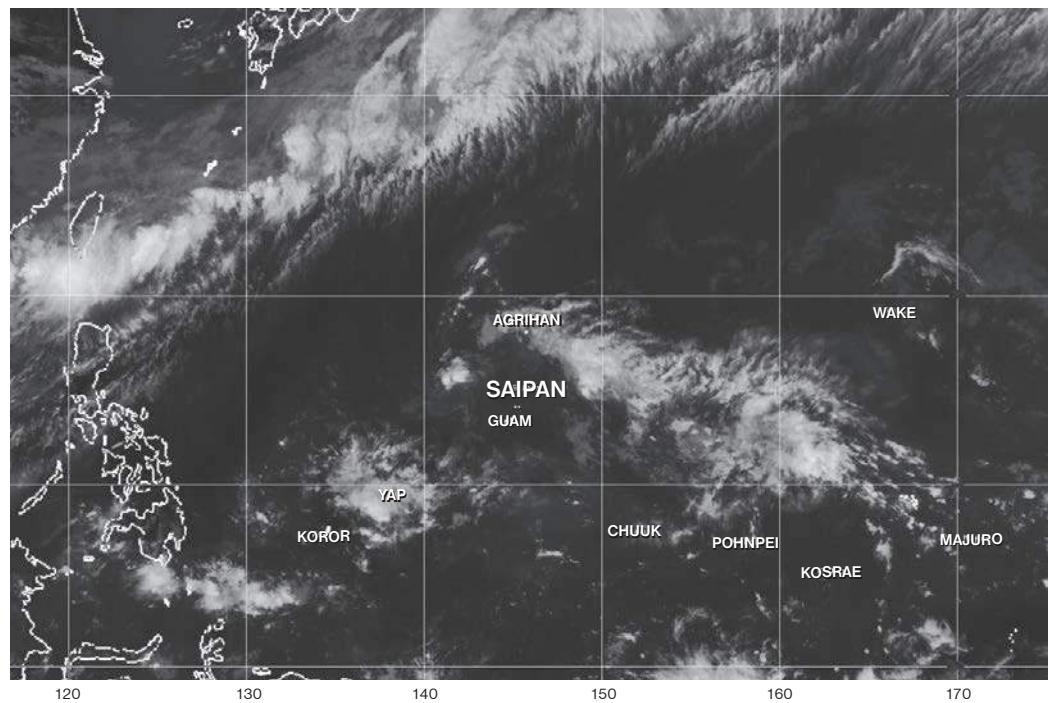
▲ 86° ▼ 76°

▲ 86° ▼ 77°

▲ 86° ▼ 77°

▲ 87° ▼ 77°

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, MONDAY, MAY 25, 2015

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A weak monsoon trough extends eastward from 8N132E to a weak circulation centered northeast of Chuuk near 11N155E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are occurring over Yap State between 11N and 7N from 135E to 141E. Similar weather is found southwest of Koror within 80 miles of a line from 4N130E to 4N135E. Low-level convergence on the eastern end of the monsoon trough is producing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms north of Pohnpei and Kosrae states between 16N and 10N from 153E to 164E. A trade-wind disturbance is generating scattered showers west of the Mariana Islands between 17N and 14N from 141E to 143E. Low-level convergence is triggering scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms primarily northeast of the Marianas within 80 miles of a line from 18N145E to 14N153E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are developing along a surface trough east of the Marshall Islands between 7N and 3N from 176E to the date line.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

Micronesia

Guam And Rota	Mostly Sunny	▲ 86 ▼ 80
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲ 88 ▼ 79
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲ 86 ▼ 78
Chuuk	Partly Cloudy	▲ 86 ▼ 79
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲ 86 ▼ 77
Kosrae	Partly Cloudy	▲ 84 ▼ 80
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲ 84 ▼ 80

Around the Globe

Auckland	Windy	▲ 58 ▼ 52
Beijing	Sunny	▲ 99 ▼ 71
Hong Kong	Thunderstorms	▲ 84 ▼ 79
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲ 82 ▼ 69
London	Partly Cloudy	▲ 65 ▼ 46
Los Angeles	Mostly Sunny	▲ 74 ▼ 58
Manila	Thundershowers	▲ 91 ▼ 78
Melbourne	Mostly Sunny	▲ 66 ▼ 52
Miami	Thundershowers	▲ 88 ▼ 78
New York	Partly Cloudy	▲ 84 ▼ 66
Osaka	Sunny	▲ 84 ▼ 63
Paris	Cloudy	▲ 67 ▼ 51
Pusan	Sunny	▲ 83 ▼ 60
Rome	Mostly Sunny	▲ 74 ▼ 59
Salem	Partly Cloudy	▲ 72 ▼ 50
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲ 60 ▼ 54
Seoul	Sunny	▲ 87 ▼ 54
Tokyo	Sunny	▲ 84 ▼ 66
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	▲ 88 ▼ 69

Tides

Saipan Harbor			
3:19 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet
9:49 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.9 Feet
2:27 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.3 Feet
9:03 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.5 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	5:47 AM	6:42 PM
Wednesday	5:47 AM	6:42 PM
Thursday	5:47 AM	6:43 PM
Friday	5:47 AM	6:43 PM
Saturday	5:47 AM	6:43 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	12:36 PM	12:29 AM
Wednesday	1:22 PM	1:07 AM
Thursday	2:09 PM	1:45 AM
Friday	2:56 PM	2:24 AM
Saturday	3:45 PM	3:03 AM

Note: Blank spaces indicate that a rising or a setting did not occur during that 24-hour interval.

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NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF APRIL 2, 2015

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA5070	4:15am	5:05am	Daily	UA5069	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA5068	8:00am	8:50am	3	UA5071	6:40am	7:30am	3
UA5068	8:40am	9:30am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7	UA5071	7:15am	8:05am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
UA5039	2:15pm	3:55pm	6, 7 via Rota	UA5039	12:55pm	1:45pm	6, 7
UA5078	3:05pm	3:55pm	1, 5	UA5038	1:00pm	2:35pm	2, 4 via Rota
UA5038	3:05pm	3:55pm	2, 4	UA5077	1:45pm	2:35pm	1, 5
UA5040	6:55pm	7:45pm	1, 5	UA5041	5:35pm	6:25pm	1, 5
UA5078	8:35pm	9:25pm	2, 3, 4, 6, 7	UA5077	7:15pm	8:05pm	2, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA5044	10:40pm	11:30pm	1, 5	UA5043	9:20pm	10:10pm	1, 5
SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)				GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)			
UA5039	2:15pm	2:50pm	6, 7	UA5038	1:00pm	1:35pm	2, 4
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)				ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN			
UA5039	3:20pm	3:55pm	6, 7	UA5038	2:00pm	2:35pm	2, 4
SAIPAN-PALAU (ROR)				PALAU (ROR)-SAIPAN			
DL287	6:05am	1:05am+1	2, 6 via NRT	DL298	4:30am	2:55pm	3, 7 via NRT
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)				NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL287	6:05am	8:45am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6	DL298	10:25am	2:55pm	Daily
DL297	4:20pm	7:10pm	Daily	DL288	8:55pm	1:25am+1	1, 3, 4, 5, 7
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1	OZ623	8:50am	2:20pm	Daily
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	7C3402	9:30am	3:20pm	1, 2, 4, 7
7C3403	4:35am	8:20am	1, 2, 5, 6, 7	7C3402	10:55am	4:25pm	3, 5, 6
7C3403	5:25am	9:10am	3, 4	OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ624	3:30pm	6:55pm	Daily	OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3401	4:20pm	8:05pm	1, 2, 4, 7	7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily
7C3401	5:25pm	9:10pm	3, 5, 6				
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			

Pagan opposes plan to use it for Marine invasion training

By DAVID S. CLOUD
TRIBUNE WASHINGTON BUREAU

SAIPAN, Northern Marianas—The tiny Pacific island of Pagan is a lost world of deserted black sand beaches, feral pigs and huge fruit bats. Two active volcanoes, one at each end of the spoon-shaped isle, rise over a deep blue horizon.

A rusting Zero fighter plane lies near a derelict Japanese-built runway still pockmarked with craters from an American bomber attack seven decades ago in World War II.

Now, if the U.S. Marine Corps gets its way, Pagan will go to war again—regularly.

The Pentagon has proposed leasing the entire 18-square-mile island in the Northern Marianas to practice live-fire amphibious invasions with fleets of warships and planes, just like days of yore.

The back-to-the-beaches proposal is in response to the U.S. military “rebalance” in the Western Pacific, partly to counter China’s growing clout, that President Barack Obama announced four years ago.

Precisely why the Marines need so much training in beach assaults is unclear. They haven’t done one in combat since the successful invasion of Incheon on the Korean peninsula 65 years ago.

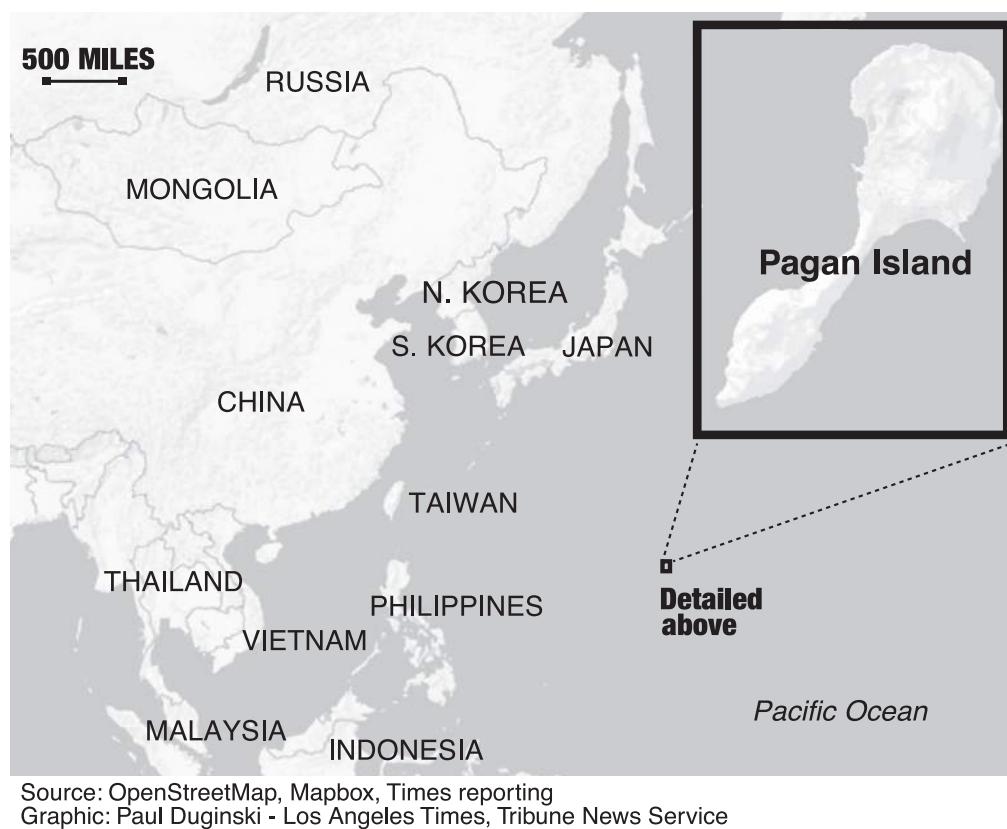
Yet plans call for guns-blazing war games on Pagan at least 16 weeks a year. Hundreds of Marines, potentially joined by troops from Japan, Australia and South Korea, would storm ashore in landing craft, firing mortars and small arms, backed by naval bombardments, swarms of helicopters, drones, fighter jets and perhaps B-52s dropping real bombs.

The plan has sparked an outpouring of resentment toward the U.S. military, fueled by strong sentiment that Pagan’s future should be determined by the people of the islands, not by Washington.

“We love our island. We don’t want to give it up,” said Jerome Aldan, the elected mayor of Pagan and other northern islands

Marine Corps invasion training

The Pentagon has proposed leasing Pagan Island, located in the Pacific Ocean, for Marine Corps invasion training



Source: OpenStreetMap, Mapbox, Times reporting
Graphic: Paul Duginski - Los Angeles Times, Tribune News Service

in the Northern Marianas chain. “This proposal is going to turn it into a wasteland.”

Aldan, 40, was 6 when the eruption of Mount Pagan forced the island’s residents—about 100 families in all—to evacuate 200 miles south to Saipan, capital of the Northern Marianas, a U.S. commonwealth territory. The military, he fears, will turn Pagan into a war zone and kill the families’ decades-old dream of returning.

Marine Corps officials say Pagan is the only island available with beaches large enough for major amphibious maneuvers. They would repair the old Japanese runway, now peppered with hardened lava, to ferry in supplies. They would set up bombing targets on the slopes of Mount Pagan, which last spewed lava in 2010.

“This is a perfect training opportunity for us,” Craig Whelden, executive director of Marine Corps Forces in the Pacific,

said in an interview. “It’s also a beautiful island with some endangered species. We would protect it like it was our own.”

The Marines do live-fire training at many bases, and practice beach assaults with landing craft at Camp Pendleton, near San Diego, and at Camp Lejeune, N.C. But Pagan offers much more.

A draft Navy environmental impact report, released in April, says Pagan would “provide the maximum available flexibility ... in a nearly unconstrained environment.”

“Training units would develop a detailed plan for ... amphibious assault, ground maneuvers, air, artillery, mortar and naval gunfire,” the 1,300-page report says.

The report concluded that most of the effects of the live-fire exercises could be “mitigated.”

With as many as 5,000 Marines due to move to Guam in the next decade, the Pentagon says it badly needs training sites in the Western Pacific.

Guam is too heavily populated for large-scale war games. Pagan, 330 miles to the north, is easily reachable by ships and aircraft.

If war returned to the Pacific, Pentagon planners say, Marines might have to fight on the beaches again. China is building its own amphibious invasion capability and has become more assertive about pressing territorial claims to islands and atolls also claimed by U.S. allies in the region.

The Pentagon already uses Farallon de Pajaros, the northernmost island in the Marianas, as a practice range for naval gunfire and bombing. Pagan would give the Marines more flexibility for training.

Some former residents want to turn the tropical island, which has rare flora and fauna, including the threatened humped tree snail, into an ecotourism resort. Some want to resume ranching or harvest copra (dried coconut meat). Some want it left alone.

HJR 19-05 was introduced by Rep. Antonio P. Sablan (Ind-Saipan).

Other lawmakers have introduced measures to battle the proliferation of “ice.”

Sen. Sixto Igisomar (R-Saipan) has initiated a campaign against illegal drugs and introduced several bills, one of which is to freeze the assets of convicted distributors of illegal drugs, particularly that of “ice,” another imposes heavier penalties on drug peddlers.

Rep. Edwin K. Propst (Ind-Saipan) earlier introduced a bill to allocate \$300,000 to the DPS and the Department of Finance to supplement the drug enforcement efforts of the two agencies.

House Bill 19-48 proposes that the additional funds come

from the Commonwealth Alien Deportation Fund, created under Public Law 10-01.

Propst earlier said the use of crystal methamphetamine or “ice” continues to be a growing problem in the CNMI, reaching “epidemic proportions within our villages and borders.”

According to Propst’s proposed bill, \$200,000 will be allocated to the Special Operations Section (narcotics unit) of the Commonwealth Bureau of Investigation, a sub-agency under the DPS.

The proposed fund is expected to be used for intelligence operations such as confidential informant services, evidence, and information, as well as technical equipment, including field drug identification kits.

The Marines counter that the two volcanoes makes resettlement too hazardous. A few homesteaders have gone back, living without sewers, schools or shops.

“It is dangerous for anyone to stay on Pagan,” said Whelden, a civilian Marine Corps official who is leading talks with the Northern Marianas government.

To defuse opposition, the Marines have announced that they would scale back their plans, using inert bombs in some cases and limiting use of live bombs to a so-called High Hazard Impact Area on Mount Pagan.

If the Marines reach a deal to lease the island, beach landings aren’t likely to start before 2017. If they fail to reach an accord, local lawmakers are nervous that Congress could take the land by eminent domain under the terms of the 1975 compact between Washington and the Marianas.

Some local lawmakers have suggested that the Marines confine their training to Tinian, another island where the military already leases two-thirds of the land. The Marines could not practice full-scale beach assaults there, however.

The Pentagon has insisted it needs both islands and isn’t willing to compromise.

Tinian, about twice the size of Pagan, is best known as the takeoff point for the U.S. planes that dropped atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki in August 1945, ending the war in the Pacific. Today it hosts a casino, among other amenities.

The Marine Corps says its plans would bring much needed investment and jobs to the isolated and largely impoverished archipelago.

“The economy is going to benefit,” Whelden said. “There’s going to be hundreds of millions of dollars in construction contracts, and to the extent we can use local contractors, use local food, it will maximize the benefits.”

That puts local officials in a

NMC to further examine board policy ahead of WASC evaluation

The Northern Marianas College has been urged to look at board policies ahead of a 2017 evaluation by their accreditation commission.

Director of Distance Learning Amanda Allen updated the board on the college’s work in meeting accreditation standards. One of these steps would be a 2017 evaluation of the college governing board’s policies.

To this, regent William Torres suggested that they reactivate the board’s ad-hoc committee on accreditation.

This would allow the “board to report on itself,” he said. So NMC can “answer those questions” set by the accrediting commission, the WASC Senior College and University Commission.

It was decided that regents Torres, Frank Rabauliman, and

difficult spot. The Marianas’ economy has collapsed over the last decade as a once-thriving garment industry has moved elsewhere.

But opposition has grown so widespread that many here doubt that Gov. Eloy S. Inos ultimately will approve a lease.

Hundreds of residents turned out for a recent community forum at Garapan Elementary School in Saipan, and speaker after speaker denounced the Pagan plan. “Don’t bomb a small island,” said Stanley Torres, a former legislator.

In April, the Federal and Foreign Affairs Committee in the Marianas House voted 19-0 in favor of a resolution for Inos to “oppose any and all proposed military use of Pagan.” The measure is waiting action in the full House.

“What is it that they can’t understand?” Arnold I. Palacios, floor leader of the Northern Marianas Senate, asked of the Marines. “The people are saying no. They just keep saying, ‘We want to bomb.’”

“We’ve made a stand,” said Rep. George Camacho. The military assumed that “it could just plant the flag” and that “we’re still savages in grass skirts,” he said.

The governor has yet to announce his view. He told a local newspaper recently that he planned to meet soon with Aldan, who is leading the opposition, “to make sure we’re on the same page.”

Aldan went to high school in Kansas while living with an uncle who was serving in the military at Fort Riley. His son serves in the U.S. Army. A faded U.S. Marine Corps sticker is on his dilapidated truck.

He’s not about to surrender.

In a contentious meeting with Whelden, he recalled the Marines’ sacrifice to free the islands from Japanese control in World War II.

“I told him, ‘You liberated us. Now you are going to destroy us.’”

House backs CNMI task force for ‘war on ice’

By JOEL PINAROC
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REPORTER

Members of the House of Representatives voted unanimously to support a resolution for the creation of a multi-agency anti-crime task force to combat the proliferation of methamphetamine or “ice” in the Commonwealth.

House Joint Resolution 19-05 was adopted Friday with all present members of the House voting “yes” to the resolution.

HJR 19-05 requests Gov. Eloy S. Inos to create the “Interagency Financial Crime and Drug Enforcement Task Force,” which aims to reduce the “illegal drug supply in the Commonwealth by disrupting and dismantling the most significant

drug trafficking organizations and their related money laundering operations.”

The proposed task force will focus on “coordinated, multi-jurisdictional investigations against drug networks.”

The participating agencies will include the Department of Public Safety, Department of Finance (Division of Customs), the Judiciary, the Office of the Attorney General, the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp., and the Community and Guidance Center.

One advantage seen in the creation of the task force is that the agencies can conduct “close sharing of intelligence and information and targeting specific interisland and cross-border offenders.”

HJR 19-05 was introduced by Rep. Antonio P. Sablan (Ind-Saipan).

Other lawmakers have introduced measures to battle the proliferation of “ice.”

Sen. Sixto Igisomar (R-Saipan) has initiated a campaign against illegal drugs and introduced several bills, one of which is to freeze the assets of convicted distributors of illegal drugs, particularly that of “ice,” another imposes heavier penalties on drug peddlers.

Rep. Edwin K. Propst (Ind-Saipan) earlier introduced a bill to allocate \$300,000 to the DPS and the Department of Finance to supplement the drug enforcement efforts of the two agencies.

House Bill 19-48 proposes that the additional funds come

from the Commonwealth Alien Deportation Fund, created under Public Law 10-01.

Propst earlier said the use of crystal methamphetamine or “ice” continues to be a growing problem in the CNMI, reaching “epidemic proportions within our villages and borders.”

According to Propst’s proposed bill, \$200,000 will be allocated to the Special Operations Section (narcotics unit) of the Commonwealth Bureau of Investigation, a sub-agency under the DPS.

The proposed fund is expected to be used for intelligence operations such as confidential informant services, evidence, and information, as well as technical equipment, including field drug identification kits.

It was decided that regents Torres, Frank Rabauliman, and

Elizabeth Rechebai, with the help of Allen, would comprise this ad-hoc.

Board chair Juan T. Lizama agreed with the “need to create an ad-hoc” to “follow through on concerns” from the commission.

College president Dr. Sharon Hart also told the board that WASC Senior expects a report on college’s completion rate.

This report would go “six years back” starting this July, she said.

Hart noted this was a “national” push, adding that there has been a “major [Department of Education] emphasis on completion.”

The report would also detail, “what classes have been passed” by students and “what’s not” been passed, she said. **(Dennis B. Chan)**

Business

Pacific regional fuel prices are increasing again

SUVA, Fiji—For the past 10 months, Pacific Island countries and territories have enjoyed falling petroleum prices but there are indications that the region should prepare for rising fuel prices.

Assessments by Economic Development Division of the Secretariat of the Pacific Community show that between July 2014 and May 2015, annual savings for the region were \$1.5 billion based on total regional fuel volume.

Meanwhile, the fall in fuel prices was in the order of \$50 per barrel (representing a 45 percent drop in the underlying costs), but there were marked differences in the benefits gained by each country.

"These savings, coupled with innovative thinking and political support, could be invested in renewable energy and energy efficiency to reduce fossil fuel dependence," SPC Deputy Director of Energy Solomone Fifita said.

For example, American Samoa, Samoa and Tonga enjoyed the benefits of falling fuel prices with very little delay because their respective fuel price regulation systems are adjusted monthly and directly reflect what is happening in the Asian supply market, Fifita explained.

Fuel pricing regulation in these three countries is achieved after extensive negotiations with fuel suppliers to achieve fair and equi-

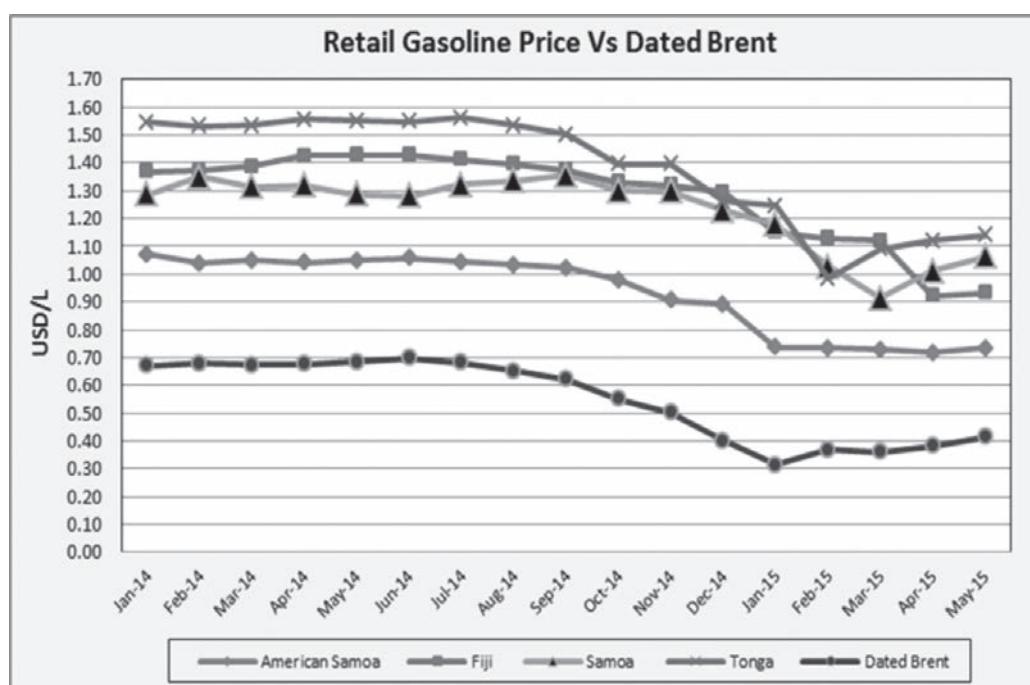


table pricing.

Fiji, although it regulates its fuel price with a similar system, only adjusts its fuel prices every three months. The country therefore experienced delays in realizing the benefits from the price decline. Conversely Fiji is also sheltered from price rises for the next few months, Fifita said.

More recently the price of crude oil has been gaining momentum, which is expected to continue over the next few months with Dated Brent standing at \$65.28 per barrel as of May 19, 2015.

The price of crude has moved higher since March due to slowing United States' production, unexpected refinery

turnaround, a weakening U.S. dollar, and growing instability in the Middle East.

The crude price is at a four-month high, after falling from previous highs above \$110 per barrel in July 2014, but SPC believes it is unclear whether oil prices will remain at this level.

Oil prices have increased significantly in recent weeks and market momentum could send prices higher, especially if refinery production slows further or if the unrest intensifies in the Middle East.

Refineries also could face unexpected problems, which could lead to regional fuel price spikes.

Monthly comparisons in-

dicate that some motorists in the Pacific region are paying noticeably more at the pump compared with one month ago for gasoline (unleaded petrol).

The recent increase in retail prices is related to regulated pricing regimes that makes retail prices reactive to the movement of international oil prices.

This month-on-month price adjustment allows retail prices to be tagged to international prices so that any increase or decrease is promptly reflected in the local retail price.

SPC's latest fourth quarter 2014 Pacific Fuel Price Monitor covers the period October to December 2014 and indicates that crude prices fell from \$110

Nigerian cellphone provider needs fuel to prevent shut-down

accused President Goodluck Jonathan's government of deliberately wrecking the economy.

"The whole scenario reeks of sabotage," spokesman Lai Mohammed said in a statement. "Never in the history of our country has any government handed over to another a more distressed country: No electricity, no fuel, workers are on strike, billions are owed to state and federal workers, 60 billion dollars are owed in national debt and the economy is virtually grounded."

Buhari takes office on Friday.

MTN Nigeria, which has 50 million-plus customers, tweeted that cellphone service will start deteriorating in 24 hours if it doesn't find diesel. Some customers already are experiencing problems and Nigeria's landline

network collapsed years ago. "MTN's available reserves are running low and the company must source for a significant quantity of diesel in the very near future to prevent a shutdown of services across Nigeria," corporate services executive Akindale Goodwill tweeted.

The crisis began when oil suppliers, hit by tightened credit lines and unpaid interest, said the government owes them as much as \$1 billion for fuel and subsidies going back to October 2014. They said they could no longer afford to supply fuel.

Oil tanker drivers unpaid by the suppliers started striking last week and were joined Thursday by other oil workers.

The government, reeling

from halved international prices for petroleum that provides more than 80 percent of its revenue, is so cash-strapped it is borrowing to pay salaries, the finance minister said earlier this month.

Minister Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala denied the debt on Friday, telling journalists the suppliers are asking the government to pay their foreign exchange differential losses caused by the naira's slump from about 160 to the dollar in December to today's 218.

She accused oil suppliers of holding Nigerians to ransom and said she has asked the Central Bank of Nigeria to verify the figures because "there has been so much fraud allegations and scams in this business of oil marketing."

more fiscal reforms.

This was just the latest push in Greece to miss an IMF payment. Last week, Nikos Filis, the leader of the party's parliamentary group, said Greece's cash crunch is so tight that it might not be able to make a

June 5 payment of 300 million euros (\$330 million).

Greece owes a total of 1.56 billion euros (\$1.72 billion) in June. It has not received bailout aid since August and the European Central Bank has provided less help lately to Greek banks.

per barrel in July to below \$60 per barrel in December.

"This late 2014 decline in international oil prices should have translated to a reduction of at least \$0.32 cents per liter in retail prices in Pacific Island countries and territories," SPC petroleum adviser Alan Bartmanovich said.

"However, many Pacific Island countries and territories didn't benefit from this reduction and we've observed that

some countries continued to have high retail fuel prices even while international oil prices were falling. Those countries that did not enjoy the full decrease in fuel prices to date should not be experiencing the latest fuel price rises," Bartmanovich said.

SPC is currently assisting Tonga and Cook Islands to review their fuel pricing templates in order to achieve lower, more equitable prices.

Ask boss to clearly define your role

YOUR OFFICE COACH

By MARIE G. MCINTYRE

McClatchy-Tribune News Service



Marie G. McIntyre is a workplace coach and the author of Secrets to Winning at Office Politics. Send in questions and get free coaching tips at <http://www.yourofficecoach.com>, or follow her on Twitter @officecoach.

Q: After our vice president promoted me into a director position, some of my new colleagues were not very welcoming. Now one of them has started sending me all the work he doesn't want. "Dan" gives me lengthy forms to complete, forwards emails for me to answer and tells people to ask me about issues that should be his responsibility.

This extra work takes up a lot of my time, but I have been reluctant to rock the boat by complaining. If I confront Dan directly, we will probably wind up in an argument. If I go running to the boss, that will just result in me being branded a tattletale. How can I get rid of these unwanted tasks without further alienating my co-workers?

A: Although "delegating Dan" is obviously quite annoying, the secret to resolving this issue is to shift your focus away from him. Instead, you must first concentrate on getting a clear definition of your role, because that will allow you to enforce appropriate boundaries.

Since defining roles is a management responsibility, the vice president is the person you need to see. However, this does not constitute "running to the boss" because your objective is to clarify expectations, not complain about your colleague.

Tell the VP that you want to be sure you understand the scope of your new job. Bring an existing job description to review or summarize your duties as you understand them.

Then, assuming that your boss does not assign you Dan's tasks, it's time for an appropriately assertive conversation.

For example: "Dan, I know you would like me to handle customer complaints, but that doesn't seem to be part of my job. Since responding to these inquiries is not my responsibility, please stop sending them to me." After that, simply return all inappropriate referrals to their rightful owner, copying your boss if necessary.

Just be sure to take these actions without delay. If Dan gets to the vice president first, he might succeed in redefining your job. And if you continue to accept his delegations, those tasks could eventually become yours by default.

Q: My newest employee apparently feels that he doesn't require any supervision. I have barely seen him since his initial two-week training period. Given the small percentage of time that he's actually in my presence, how can I supervise him effectively?

A: You sound like a helpless bystander, not a manager, so you should remind yourself that you're the one in charge. Instead of allowing this guy to decide how much supervision he wants, it's your job to determine how much he needs. After all, you can't evaluate his performance if you don't know what he's doing.

Instead of passively waiting for the newbie to drop by, schedule regular meetings to discuss his work. If he's located elsewhere, make an occasional surprise visit. If he's usually on the road, accompany him from time to time.

Complete autonomy should be given only to those who have earned your trust, and that takes much longer than a few weeks.

Greece's leftist leaders reject call to miss debt payment

LAGOS, Nigeria (AP)—Nigeria's leading cellphone provider said Sunday it urgently needs diesel to prevent shutting down services countrywide—the latest business hit by a months-long fuel crisis in Africa's biggest oil producer.

Many aircraft have been grounded with foreign airlines diverting to other African countries to fuel for flights abroad.

Some radio stations have been silenced.

Nigeria's woefully erratic electricity supply keeps businesses dependent on diesel generators. Nigeria produces more than 2 billion barrels of petroleum a day, but imports almost all refined fuel because its refineries aren't maintained.

The party of President-elect Muhammadu Buhari on Sunday

accused President Goodluck Jonathan's government of deliberately wrecking the economy.

"The whole scenario reeks of sabotage," spokesman Lai Mohammed said in a statement. "Never in the history of our country has any government handed over to another a more distressed country: No electricity, no fuel, workers are on strike, billions are owed to state and federal workers, 60 billion dollars are owed in national debt and the economy is virtually grounded."

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Nation

Storms flood Plains, Midwest, killing 3, forcing evacuations

SAN MARCOS, Texas (AP)—Record rainfall wreaked havoc across a swath of Texas and the Midwest on Sunday, causing flash floods in normally dry riverbeds, spawning tornadoes and forcing at least 2,000 people to flee.

Tornadoes struck, severely damaging an apartment complex in Houston, Texas. A firefighter in Oklahoma was swept to his death while trying to rescue people from high water and a woman in Tulsa died in a traffic-related crash. In Texas, a man's body was recovered from a flooded area along the Blanco River, which rose 26 feet in just one hour and left piles of wreckage 20 feet high, authorities said.

"It looks pretty bad out there," said Hays County emergency management coordinator Kharley Smith, describing the destruction in Wimberley, a community that is part of a fast-growing corridor between Austin and San Antonio. "We do have whole streets with maybe one or two houses left on them and the rest are just slabs," she said, noting late Sunday that three people from Wimberley

still weren't accounted for.

From 350 to 400 homes were destroyed in Wimberley, many of them washed away, Smith said. In nearby San Marcos, flooding had damaged about 300 homes, she said.

Authorities also warned people to honor a night-time curfew and stay away from damaged areas, since more rain was on the way, threatening more floods with the ground saturated and waterways overflowing.

Rivers rose so fast that whole communities woke up Sunday surrounded by water. The Blanco crested above 40 feet—more than triple its flood stage of 13 feet—swamping Interstate 35 and forcing parts of the busy north-south highway to close. Rescuers used pontoon boats and a helicopter to pull people out.

Dallas also faced severe flooding from the Trinity River, which was expected to crest near 40 feet Monday and lap at the foundations of an industrial park. The Red and Wichita rivers also rose far above flood stage.

Heather Ruiz returned from work early Sunday to ankle-



Leaves and branches are scattered throughout a flooded yard after a roof collapsed during a morning storm Sunday, May 24, 2015 in Houston at the Rockport Apartment Homes on S. Gessner. AP

plentiful moisture from the Gulf of Mexico, said Meteorologist Forrest Mitchell at National Weather Service office in Norman, Oklahoma.

"It looks like the rainfall that we're getting now may actually officially end the drought," that has gripped the southern Plains states for years, Mitchell said, noting that moisture now reaches about two feet below the surface of the soil and many lakes and reservoirs are full.

Wichita Falls was so dry at one point that it had to get Texas regulatory approval to recycle and treat its wastewater as drinking water dried up. By Sunday, the city reached a rainfall record, nearly 14 inches so far in May.

deep water and a muddy couch inside her home in San Marcos. She wasn't sure what to do next. "Pick up the pieces and start all over I guess. Salvage what can be salvaged and replace what needs to be replaced," Ruiz said.

This May is already the wettest on record for several cities in the southern Plains states, with days still to go and more rain on the way. So far this year, Oklahoma City has recorded 27.37 inches of rain. Last year the state's capital got only 4.29 inches.

The reasons include a prolonged warming of Pacific Ocean sea surface temperatures, which generally results in cooler air, coupled with an active southern jet stream and

Forgotten for decades, fallen NY soldier finally honored

ALBANY, N.Y. (AP) — Carroll Heath didn't have it easy growing up in the Great Depression. His father wasn't around, his mother was a patient in a mental hospital and he kept largely to himself. Soon after graduating high school, he enlisted in the Army and wound up in the Philippines, where he's believed to have died sometime in 1942.

It was a short life that went largely unnoticed, even in Pvt. Heath's western New York hometown of Gowanda. For 70 years, he was the forgotten soldier, his name not listed among the town's war dead, not inscribed on a World War II memorial in the middle of town.

And that's likely how things would have remained had it not been for one of Heath's high school classmates, a now-92-year-old WWII vet who enlisted his son to track down fading recollections that Heath went

off to the Philippines to fight the Japanese and never came back.

"The guy had a pretty tough life," Robert Mesches said by phone from his retirement home in Port St. Lucie, Florida. "This man should be remembered."

Late last year, 66-year-old Alan Mesches, who grew up in Gowanda and now lives outside Dallas, began trying to find out what happened to Heath. "I'd like to complete the story. I'd like to see him get recognition."

It hasn't been easy. Heath wasn't married and had no children. Little was known about Heath when he attended Gowanda High, and only a handful of his classmates are still living.

Alan Mesches, an Air Force veteran, spent the past several months tracking down every bit of information available on

This 1940 Valley Bugle yearbook photo provided by the Gowanda Central School District in Gowanda, N.Y., shows World War II veteran Carroll Heath.



Heath, from census listings to school records to military documents. He learned that Heath was born in 1919 and was shuffled among relatives living in several rural communities around Gowanda, 30 miles south of Buffalo.

Heath's name appeared in the 1940 census as living with an aunt and uncle on a farm near Gowanda. The same census listed his mother as a patient at the Gowanda State Hospital, a psychiatric facility. His mother apparently remained a patient at the hospital until her death in 1962.

Heath didn't enter the Gowanda school system until

After officer's acquittal, 2 more cases loom for Cleveland

CLEVELAND (AP) — Cleveland emerged unscathed and intact after a day of protests following the acquittal of a white patrolman who had been on trial in the shooting deaths of two unarmed black suspects killed in a 137-shot barrage of police gunfire.

Officers arrested 71 people the night after the verdict, though there was nothing close to the violence other cities have experienced over the treatment of black suspects.

But Cleveland is not yet done dealing with deadly police encounters.

Two other high-profile police-involved deaths still hang over the city: a boy holding

a pellet gun fatally shot by a rookie patrolman and a mentally ill woman in distress who died after officers took her to the ground and handcuffed her.

The deaths of 12-year-old Tamir Rice and 37-year-old Tanisha Anderson occurred just eight days apart last November. An investigation by the Cuyahoga County sheriff's department into Tamir's death is nearly finished and ready to be given to county prosecutors to decide whether to pursue criminal charges against the patrolman.

The status of the investigation into Tanisha Anderson's death is unclear. A medical examiner said she died of positional as-

phyxiation, which means she couldn't breathe, and ruled her death a homicide. City and police officials did not respond to messages Sunday seeking an update on the case.

Tamir and Anderson, like the two motorists whose deaths were at the center of Saturday's verdict, were black. The rookie officer who fatally shot Tamir is white. In the Anderson case, one officer is white and the other is black, although a family lawsuit does not make an issue of race.

The acquittal of Patrolman Michael Brelo in the November 2012 deaths of Timothy Russell and Malissa Williams prompted a spontaneous protest outside

the courthouse that later merged with a planned protest over Tamir's death at the recreation center where he was shot.

Tamir's grandfather expressed his outrage to a crowd of several hundred people.

"I'm mad as hell," Eugene Rice said. "What I want to do is better not say."

Walter Madison, an attorney for Tamir's family, said he'd been cautiously optimistic about the outcome in the Brelo case. He said he respected the judge's legal analysis in acquitting patrolman Brelo, but wondered if the prosecutor's office would have better served justice by pursuing some other charge, such as conspiracy.

Rick Perry seeks to win over Iowa, a handshake at a time

LE MARS, Iowa (AP)—Rick Perry is working his way through small-town Iowa one handshake, bear hug and back-slap at a time.

The early, hands-on approach from the 2016 presidential prospect contrasts with his failed bid four years ago, when he entered the race relatively late and stumbled in the debates. The former Texas governor says he has more policy knowledge under his belt buckle now and more time for the early states.

"Nobody came to Iowa more in 2014 than I did," Perry said after speaking to about 20 people at a Pizza Ranch in Sioux Center this past week. "And I will suggest to you that will probably be the case in 2015. If somebody is going to spend more time in Iowa than I am, they better bring their lunch."

Although politicking in diners and pizza places is hardly new in the leadoff caucus state, Perry has been notably active in some of Iowa's more out-of-the-way places, which get less frequent traffic from presidential hopefuls. Since 2014, he has made more than a dozen visits to Iowa.

"I think it's a good strategy," said Iowa Gov. Terry Branstad, noting that former Pennsylvania Sen. Rick Santorum employed a similar tactic in 2012 and narrowly won the caucuses. "It's not a bad strategy to be kind of under the radar and just kind of build."

Perry, 65, has also been spending time in other early voting states, such as New Hampshire and South Carolina. He says he will announce on June 4 whether he's running for president again.

Perry launched his 2012 presidential bid with fanfare and high expectations, but quickly went from being a front-runner to an also-ran because of gaffes and poor debate performances. This time, Perry is hoping his energetic pursuit of each vote will help people forget his "oops" moment, when he was unable to recall the third of three federal agencies he said he would close if elected president.

Perry's aides have said he wasn't prepared when he entered the last presidential race and have blamed his debate problems on a busy schedule and pain medication he was taking after back surgery. After finishing fifth in the Iowa caucuses and sixth in New Hampshire's primary, Perry quit the race.

"I hadn't spent the time and the preparations that I should have," he says now.

During stops in conservative northwestern Iowa, Perry boasted about his record as the longest-serving governor in Texas history, citing his state's low taxes, limited regulation and caps on civil lawsuit damages. An animated speaker, Perry gestures dramatically as he talks about his farm upbringing, military record and experience in office.

Asia

Kids on their own among migrants to arrive in Indonesia

KUALA CANGKOI, Indonesia (AP)—It was just the two of them, brother and sister, out on the open ocean with hundreds of other desperate migrants, mostly Rohingya Muslims fleeing their homes in Myanmar. For nearly three months, the siblings comforted each other when rolling waves thrashed their boat, when their empty bellies ached and when they were beaten for trying to stand up to stretch their legs.

As the oldest, Mohammad Aesop—just 10 years old—knew it was his job to keep his 8-year-old sister safe. But with the Thai crew wielding guns and threatening to throw troublemakers overboard, he felt helpless.

Theirs was the first boat to wash ashore in Indonesia two weeks ago, followed by a number of other wooden trawlers crammed with hungry, dehydrated people. Many were abandoned at sea by their captains following a regional crackdown on human trafficking networks.

So far, nearly 3,100 Rohingya and Bangladeshis have landed in three Southeast Asian countries, according to the International Organization for Migration. More than half of them wound up in Indonesia, where



In this Friday, May 22, 2015, photo, Hussein Ahmed eats food inside a tent at a temporary shelter in Bayeun, Aceh Province, Indonesia. AP

nearly 170 children who traveled alone—some after being tricked or kidnapped—wait to learn what will happen next.

Labeled one of the world's most persecuted minorities, the Rohingya have been fleeing predominantly Buddhist Myan-

mar for decades.

But it was only after the country started moving from dictatorship to democracy in 2011 that the numbers really spiraled, with newfound freedoms of expression lifting the lid off deep-rooted hatred felt by

many toward the ethnic Muslims. Hundreds were killed, and thousands more were placed in internment camps where they cannot work and medical care is scarce.

In recent months, however, flight from the area has been

triggered less by fear than by desperation and greed.

Rohingya brokers, eager to fill boats with human cargo that fetch \$100 each, roam villages and displacement camps touting stories of jobs waiting overseas.

Bored, frustrated and naive,

youngsters are the easiest to trick. Once on board the ships, they are also the most vulnerable.

At the Indonesian seaside camp in Aceh province's Kuala Cangkoi where Mohammad and his sister now stay, nearly a third of the migrants are children. Some of the smallest Rohingya suck on lollipops and munch on potato chips passed out by local residents and students who come to snap photos of the group. Other exhausted little ones, who went three days without food on the boat, lie face down asleep on the cool white tile of a pavilion where fish is normally hawked.

"The vulnerability of these children can never be overstated," said Steve Hamilton, deputy chief of mission at the International Organization for Migration in Indonesia, adding that the government has said special care will be provided to ensure the safety of unaccompanied minors. "The hardships they have endured at such young ages are heartbreaking."

Malaysia finds graves of suspected trafficking victims

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia (AP)—Malaysian authorities said Sunday that they have discovered a series of graves in at least 17 abandoned camps used by human traffickers on the border with Thailand where Rohingya Muslims fleeing Myanmar have been held.

The finding follows a similar discovery earlier this month by police in Thailand who unearthed dozens of bodies from shallow graves in abandoned camps on the Thai side of the border. The grim discoveries are shedding new light on the hidden network of jungle

camps run by traffickers, who have for years held countless desperate people captive while extorting ransoms from their families.

Most of those who have fallen victim to the trafficking networks are refugees and impoverished migrants from Myanmar and Bangladesh, part of a wave of people who have fled their homelands to reach countries like Malaysia, where they hope to find work or live free from persecution.

As Southeast Asian governments have launched crackdowns amid intensified international pressure and media scrutiny, traffickers have abandoned camps on land and even boats at sea to avoid arrest.

national pressure and media scrutiny, traffickers have abandoned camps on land and even boats at sea to avoid arrest.

Malaysian Home Minister Zahid Hamidi told reporters that police were trying to identify and verify "mass graves that were found" in the region near the Thai border.

"These graves are believed to be a part of human trafficking activities involving migrants," he said, adding that police have discovered 17 abandoned camps that they suspect were used by traffickers.

There was no immediate

word on how many bodies had been recovered. Zahid said that each grave probably contained anywhere from one to four bodies, and that authorities were in the process of counting.

He said he was shocked at the discoveries, because "just last week, we went there ... to see

for ourselves." He said he expected more camps and graves to be found "because they have been there for quite some time ... We are still investigating, but I suspect they have been operating for at least five years."

Local media outlets said the graves were found in two locations in the northern state of Perlis. The state borders south-

ern Thailand's Songkhla province, where at least 33 bodies were found earlier this month.

According to the Malay-language Utusan Malaysia newspaper, police found 30 large graves containing hundreds of corpses in mid-May in forests around the Perlis towns of Padang Besar and Wang Kelian.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Aquino: PH to fly usual routes over disputed reefs

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—The Philippine president says the country's aircraft will continue to fly their usual routes over disputed reefs in the South China Sea, defying China's challenges to its planes and those of the United States. President Benigno Aquino III told reporters Monday that there is no declared air defense identification zone over the area and Philippine air patrols will still fly routes based on international law. He said he could not reveal details about arrangements being made by Manila with its military ally, the U.S., to address the problem. China said Thursday that it is entitled to keep watch over airspace and seas surrounding artificial islands it created in the disputed waters of the South China Sea, following an exchange in which its navy warned off a U.S. surveillance plane.

Nepali villagers return to homes after river gets unblocked

KATHMANDU, Nepal (AP)—Thousands of villagers in northwestern Nepal were able to return to their homes Monday after a mountain river swept away debris from a landslide that had blocked it, allowing waters to flow normally again. The landslide before dawn Sunday dammed up the Kaligandaki River and created a lake 2 kilometers (1.2 miles) long. Thousands of villagers fled their homes, fearing flash floods. It happened in an

area north of Beni Bazaar, about 200 kilometers (125 miles) northwest of the capital, Kathmandu. Overnight, the river washed away rocks and other debris, and by Monday morning, river was flowing at its normal level, said government administrator Tek Bahadur K.C. The landslide was not caused by an aftershock to major earthquakes that struck Nepal on April 25 and May 12, which together killed nearly 8,700 people and injuring 16,800 others.

Sydney siege inquest: Gunman secretive, defiant narcissist

SYDNEY (AP)—An inquest into last year's siege at a Sydney cafe has heard that the gunman was a self-obsessed fabulist who grew increasingly defiant as he edged closer to launching his deadly attack. The details of Man Monis' life and death were being examined Monday at a coroner's inquest investigating the circumstances of December's crisis at the Lindt Cafe. Monis took those inside hostage and forced them to outline his demands in online videos—including that he be delivered a flag of the Islamic State group. The standoff ended when police stormed the cafe. Coroner Michael Barnes said the inquest would try to answer whether Monis was a lone wolf perpetrating an Islamic State-inspired terrorist act, or a "deranged individual" pursuing a personal private grievance in a public manner.

Ex-Pakistani PM: Son's kidnappers want militants released

MULTAN, Pakistan (AP)—The captors of a former Pakistani prime minister's son demanded the release of several al-Qaida prisoners in exchange for his release, the former premier said Sunday.

Yusuf Raza Gilani said he spoke by phone for eight minutes to his son Ali Haider, who he believed was being held somewhere in Afghanistan.

Gunmen seized Haider in May 2013. In a video, later released purportedly by the Taliban, the militants claimed to be holding him hostage.

His son appeared to be in good condition, Gilani said.

"They're demanding, they're talking about the release of some al-Qaida men, their children and

women," Gilani said. He said he had previously taken up the issue with the Afghan president and planned to pursue the matter with Pakistani officials.

Gilani, who served as prime minister between March 2008 and April 2012, led major military offensives against Taliban strongholds like Swat and South Waziristan in 2009.

Also on Sunday, a militant video purported to show a Chinese tourist kidnapped by Taliban-allied fighters in Pakistan a year ago asking for his government to assist in his release.

A militant known to belong to a Taliban splinter group called Jaish al-Hadeed, or the "Army of Steel," provided the video to The Associated Press.

World

Gay couples awake to new Ireland, hope to wed by Christmas

DUBLIN (AP)—Gay couples of Ireland woke up Sunday in what felt like a nation reborn, with dreams of wedding plans dancing in their heads.

This new reality was sinking in after the Irish people voted with a surprisingly strong 62 percent “yes” to enshrine the right to gay marriage in the country’s conservative 1937 constitution. Thousands of revelers of all sexual identities celebrated until dawn after the result was announced Saturday night.

The Justice Department confirmed Sunday it plans to draft a marriage bill this week that will permit those taking vows in civil ceremonies to choose either to be “husband and wife” or “spouses of each other.” It will ensure that no church is required to perform a gay marriage, a key demand of the dominant Catholic Church and also the main Protestant and Muslim communities in Ireland.

Deputy Prime Minister Joan Burton said she expects the bill to become law by early July.

Because existing law requires a minimum three-month notice for any civil marriages, the first gay weddings cannot happen until the fall.

For Sen. Katherine Zappone and Ann Louise Gilligan, their day has nearly come. Since 2003 they have fought for legal recognition of their Canadian marriage, suffering setbacks and delays as they sued the state all the way to the Supreme Court.

“For so long, I’ve been having to dig in my heels and say ... Well, we ARE married. I’m a married woman!” said Zappone, a Seattle native who settled with her Irish spouse in Dublin three decades ago.

“We are now entering a new Ireland,” said Gilligan, a former nun.

Zappone and Gilligan thrilled a crowd of thousands of rainbow flag-waving revelers Saturday at the results center at Dublin Castle with a playful promise to renew their vows. Zappone dramatically broke off from a live TV interview, stared directly into the



AP
Rory O’Neill, known by the Drag persona Panti, celebrates with Colm O’Gorman, executive director of Amnesty International in Ireland, at Dublin Castle, Ireland, Saturday, May 23, 2015.

us in tears, wanting to talk to us. They now felt so much freer, and proud,” said Zappone, who became Ireland’s first openly lesbian lawmaker when Prime Minister Enda Kenny appointed her to the Senate in 2011.

“There aren’t that many moments in life where you are surrounded with an exuberance of joy. These are rare moments,” said Gilligan, a former Loreto nun who left the order in her mid-20s to pursue social justice as a lay Catholic. She wasn’t sure about her sexuality until Zappone entered their first theology class together at Boston College in 1981.

“The door opened, and this gorgeous woman came in. I didn’t know I was lesbian. I’m a late learner,” Gilligan recalled with a laugh. “I fell in love with Katherine, and I went for it. I simply adored her, and I wanted to be with her forever and ever, and here we are!”

camera, and asked Gilligan to marry her all over again.

“I said yes to Katherine 12 years ago at our marriage in Canada,” Gilligan, nearby, shouted to the crowd. “And now

we are bringing the ‘yes’ back home to Ireland, our country of Ireland! Yes, yes, yes!”

In a more sober mood Sunday, the couple reflected on their long road to social acceptance and the remaining wait to get officially hitched in Ireland, before Christmas they hope.

“It took us hours to get a taxi (Saturday night) because so many people came up to

Official: Syrian army preparing for counterattack on IS

DAMASCUS, Syria (AP)—The Syrian army is deploying troops in areas near the ancient town of Palmyra in apparent preparation for a counterattack to retake it from the Islamic State group, an official said.

Gov. Talal Barazi of the central province of Homs, which includes Palmyra, told The Associated Press Sunday that IS members have “committed mass massacres in the city of Palmyra” since they captured it on Wednesday. He said IS fighters took many civilians, including women, to unknown destinations.

Activists in the town have said that IS fighters have hunted down President Bashar Assad’s loyalist since taking the town,

killing some 280 people.

Syria’s Prime Minister Wael al-Halqi condemned what he called “a massacre” in Palmyra blaming Saudi Arabia, Qatar and Turkey for such killings because of their support for groups trying to remove Assad from power.

Al-Halqi called on the international community and all humanitarian organizations to pressure the governments that support “terrorism” to stop their support “as terrorism is posing a global danger.” Saudi Arabia, Turkey and Qatar are main backers of Syrian rebels and opposition groups.

Barazi, the governor, said troops are fighting with IS gunmen in the nearby Jizl area.

“There are plans, but we don’t know when the zero hour for a military act in Palmyra,” Barazi said without elaborating.

Meanwhile state-run news agency, SANA, said IS members are still preventing people from leaving Palmyra. The U.N. refugee agency, UNHCR, said that along with its partners they are preparing aid for some 11,000 people who fled Palmyra and surrounding villages.

A Facebook page used by IS to publish its statement posted a photo of 20 Syrian soldiers in uniform captured in Palmyra.

The capture of Palmyra has stoked fears that the militants might try to destroy one of the Mideast’s most spectacular ar-

chaeological sites—a well-preserved, 2,000-year-old Roman-era city on the town’s edge—as they have destroyed others in Syria and Iraq.

In Qatar, the European Union’s foreign policy chief said the recent conquest of Palmyra and the Iraq city of Ramadi by the IS group only increases the need for greater political cooperation in the face of the militant threat.

“Only a political solution both in Syria and Iraq can provide a settlement for the crisis,” Federica Mogherini said following a meeting between officials from the European Union and the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council.

Defense chief: Iraqis showed no will to fight at Ramadi

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Islamic State group’s takeover of the provincial capital Ramadi is stark evidence that Iraqi forces lack the “will to fight,” Defense Secretary Ash Carter said in a TV interview that aired Sunday. The harsh assessment raised new questions about the Obama administration’s strategy to defeat the extremist group that has seized a strategically important swath of the Middle East.

Although Iraqi soldiers “vastly outnumbered” their opposition in the capital of Anbar province, they quickly withdrew last Sunday without putting up much resistance from the city

in Iraq’s Sunni heartland, Carter said on CNN’s “State of the Union.” The interview aired on Sunday.

The Iraqis left behind large numbers of U.S.-supplied vehicles, including several tanks, now presumed to be in Islamic State hands.

“What apparently happened is the Iraqi forces just showed no will to fight,” Carter said. “They were not outnumbered; in fact, they vastly outnumbered the opposing force. That says to me, and I think to most of us, that we have an issue with the will of the Iraqis to fight ISIL and defend themselves.”

The White House declined to comment on Sunday.

Iraqi lawmaker Hakim al-Zamili, the head of the parliamentary defense and security committee, called Carter’s comments “unrealistic and baseless,” in an interview with The Associated Press.

“The Iraqi army and police did have the will to fight IS group in Ramadi, but these forces lack good equipment, weapons and aerial support,” said al-Zamili, a member of the political party headed by radical Shia cleric Muqtada al-Sadr, who is stridently anti-American.

American officials say they

are sending anti-tank weapons to the Iraqi military. But they also noted that Iraqi forces were not routed from Ramadi—they left of their own accord, frightened in part by a powerful wave of Islamic State group suicide truck bombs, some the size of the one that destroyed the federal building in Oklahoma City two decades ago, said a senior State Department official who spoke to reporters last week under ground rules he not be named.

“The ISF was not driven out of Ramadi,” Gen. Martin Dempsey, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said last week. “They drove out of Ramadi.”

WORLD BRIEFS

Iraqi lawmaker slams US criticism of Iraqi military

BAGHDAD (AP)—An Iraqi lawmaker says U.S. military commanders are pointing fingers for their own failure to properly support the Iraqi military in the fight against the Islamic State group. U.S. Defense Secretary Ash Carter stirred controversy Sunday morning by claiming in a television interview that Iraqi soldiers had superior numbers but lost the city of Ramadi to the Islamic State group because they “showed no will to fight.” Hakim al-Zamili, the head of the parliamentary defense and security committee, calls Carter’s comments “unrealistic and baseless.” He said the U.S. should bear much of the blame for the fall of Ramadi for failure to provide “good equipment, weapons and aerial support” to the soldiers. Now he says the U.S. military is seeking to “throw the blame on somebody else.”

Polish president concedes defeat after exit poll released

WARSAW, Poland (AP)—Polish President Bronislaw Komorowski conceded defeat in the country’s presidential election Sunday after an exit poll showed him trailing Andrzej Duda, a previously little-known right-wing politician. If the exit poll is confirmed by official results, which are due Monday, it marks a significant blow to the ruling Civic Platform party ahead of more im-

portant parliamentary elections this year. The pro-market and pro-European party has overseen unprecedented growth during its eight years of power but is now being punished by voter discontent. Many Poles say they are fed up with corruption scandals involving members of the ruling party, and with the fact that economic growth has not trickled down to many ordinary Poles.

Businesses quietly switch to dollar in socialist Venezuela

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)—It’s still possible to buy a gleaming Ford truck in Venezuela, rent a chic apartment in Caracas, and snag an American Airlines flight to Miami. Just not in the country’s official currency. As the South American nation spirals into economic chaos, an increasing number of products are not only figuratively out of the reach of average consumers, but literally cannot be purchased in Venezuelan bolívares, which fell into a tailspin on the black market last week.

Businesses and individuals are turning to dollars even as the anti-American rhetoric of the socialist administration grows more strident. It’s a shift that’s allowing parts of the economy to limp along despite a cash crunch and the world’s highest inflation. But it could put some goods further out of reach of the working class, whose well-being has been the focal point of the country’s 16-year-old socialist revolution.

Focus

NEW YORK (AP)—When I realized I was paying off six different credit cards and not getting anywhere, I decided to consolidate my debt, like millions of other Americans.

I visited my local bank, asked for a \$15,000 loan but was offered an interest rate higher than my cards were charging.

So I looked into online lenders and discovered a growing part of the sharing economy known as peer-to-peer lending, a system in which a group of investors pool money to loan to people like me.

The first company I went to, Upstart, was willing to lend me money but again, the interest rate was too high. Then I went to Prosper, the second-largest lender in the industry. Prosper found investors in my loan in two days and I had my money in five.

I never visited a branch or met a loan officer. And the interest rate of less than 9 percent beat the 13 percent offered by my brick-and-mortar bank.

After borrowing the money, I wanted to know more. Who were these “peers” and why did they think I was such a good credit risk?

The answer took me deep into an industry that has already attracted some of the biggest names on Wall Street, like Blackrock and Goldman Sachs, but remains below the radar of most federal regulators. Peer-to-peer lending is still untested by recession, and analysts say it can carry big risks for investors. Consumers, largely unfamiliar with the industry, could face interest rates that exceed even the most expensive credit cards.

The name “peer-to-peer lending” is somewhat misleading. While individuals do lend money, most of the funding for loans comes from hedge funds, insurance and investment companies, and wealth advisers. It took me three months to find a “peer” who invested in my loan.

Prosper, like the rest of the industry, is seeing exponential growth. The San Francisco-based service created \$600 million worth of loans over the first three months of this year, more than triple what it did a year earlier, and it's hiring as many as 10 loan officers and other employees a week, says CEO Aaron Vermut.

Prosper competes with Lending Club, which went public in December, and has reported a 100-plus percent jump in the amount of money it loans year over year. Both companies expect their loan growth to double or triple in the foreseeable future.

Prosper and Lending Club are just two of dozens of companies trying to compete. Some, like Upstart, specialize in loans for young borrowers with limited credit history. Others, like On-

investment company in Wisconsin called Looking Glass Investments, which invests solely in loans created by peer-to-peer lending sites.

“We like to invest in people,” O’Malley said. “We’re able to provide a service that a bank is no longer able to competitively provide.”

Looking Glass is small, with less than \$10 million in assets, but it owns more than 6,200 loans and is growing quickly. Looking Glass had a 10.2 percent return last year on those investments.

I asked O’Malley if he owned part of my loan, but he said he only looks at data, not the person. He uses an in-house formula to determine the risk of defaults.

“We don’t want to know who you are,” he said. “We just want the numbers to tell the story.”

As demand grows, federal regulation has been slow to keep up with the industry. The Federal Reserve, the banking industry’s main regulator, has issued no rules on how the industry should operate. The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau has been silent. Only the Securities and Exchange Commission has weighed in.

In 2010, the agency ruled that offering peer-to-peer loans to investors amounted to selling securities and said Prosper and Lending Club had to be registered with regulators and provide disclosures to investors about where their money was going.

But the SEC’s job is to be a regulator for investors, not consumers.

Consumers are largely protected for the moment. Because companies like Prosper and Lending Club use a third-party bank—often it’s Utah-based WebBank—to process the loan, the loan is protected under the Truth in Lending Act and other consumer laws. However, by using a third-party, the lenders are able to bypass state usury laws.

Most loans are being made to highly qualified, often high-income borrowers at the moment. But industry executives acknowledge that the growing interest in peer-to-peer lending could attract subprime players.

And the industry remains untested. The loans have not been through an economic downturn, so there’s no data on how many could default in a recession. And because the loans are unsecured, the only recourse for investors if a borrower fails to pay them back is debt collectors.

Even industry executives acknowledge that the runaway growth could backfire. For instance, while Prosper has seen substantial growth, the platform is not consistently profitable.

“There’s frothiness in the industry right now,” says Prosper’s Vermut, “and when the environment changes, we will find out who’s really running a good business.”

BANKLESS BORROWING

Why I skipped the bank and took out a loan from my ‘peers’

By KEN SWEET
AP BUSINESS WRITER

Deck, which went public last year, focus on loans to small businesses.

Peer-to-peers have been able to charge less than traditional banks largely because their costs are low. Prosper, Lending Club and others have no retail branches, and the risk is passed onto investors. As more investors put money into these loans, interest rates have fallen as well. Prosper loans in 2013 had an average rate of 16.8 percent. In 2015, the rate is 13.3 percent.

Even with this growth, peer-to-peer lending is tiny compared with big banks. JPMorgan, for example, has \$187 billion in consumer loans on its balance sheet.

The lending peer I tracked down is Don Davis. I owe him \$1,500. Davis’ company, Prime Meridian Capital Management, owns 10 percent of my loan.

“I take you at your word you’ll pay us back,” Davis joked in an interview.



Ken Sweet

Davis got into peer-to-peer lending in 2012 and owns more

than 14,000 loans, in whole or in pieces. His \$60 million-plus Prime Meridian Income Fund had

a return of 8.5 percent in 2014.

Like many investors, Davis was attracted to peer-to-peer lending because other types of debt, such as bonds, had be-

come unattractive. With interest rates and yields stubbornly low, it’s difficult to make much money in that market.

How does my 9 percent rate compare? Junk bonds, a risky type of debt, offer a yield of slightly more than 6 percent. Bonds from high-rated companies yield around 2 percent. And one of the safest types of debt, three- and five-year U.S. Treasury notes, have a yield of 0.93 percent and 1.50 percent, respectively.

Peer-to-peer lenders charge from 6 percent for highly qualified borrowers to more than 30 percent for extremely risky applicants.

“I see personal loans as being simple and transparent. That’s why I like them,” Davis said. “We looked at a lot of different investments that gave us the yield we were looking for, but many of them behind the scenes were overly complex and higher risk.”

Matt O’Malley runs a small



In this Sept. 24, 2013 file photo, a sheet of uncut \$100 bills makes the way through the printing process at the Bureau of Engraving and Printing Western Currency Facility in Fort Worth, Texas. AP

Overdrive

Honda thinks outside the box for

By LARRY PRINTZ
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

You can't blame Honda for trying.

When the Japanese automaker last redesigned the Pilot in 2009, Honda designers gave the three-row crossover the look of a true SUV, with big, boxy proportions. While successful, the model lacked the conservative, sophisticated elegance that buyers had come to expect.

This has been rectified with the release of the 2016 Honda Pilot, which sports a look that is classically Honda, and should endear it to longtime buyers who might have been put off by the second-generation's resemblance to a strongbox. Instead, the new model wears some of the familial styling cues seen on the compact CR-V and subcompact HR-V, but in a more mature fashion. While it may not appear adventurous, it does have a modern allure that should wear well as the model ages; its looks are very easy on the eyes.

The 2016 Pilot is 3.5 inches longer than the previous Pilot, with 1.3 inches of that going to the cargo area. This allows owners to carry an 82-quart cooler without folding the third-row seats. And accessing that third row is easier. Access width has grown by 2.5 inches, and a one-touch second row seat that



HONDA
The 2016 Honda Pilot Elite has the conservative, sophisticated elegance that should endear it to longtime buyers.

boasts a button mounted low on the second row seat side bolster, where it's easy for children to reach.

There are five ascending trim levels, LX, EX, EX-L, Touring and Elite, with the biggest difference being the number of amenities. So most buyers will get a second-row bench seat unless opting for the Elite, in which case there will be captain's chairs. Both first and second row seats can be heated, while front seat occupants can cool their thrones as well. And,

for chillier climes, a heated steering wheel is available.

Other new interior features include Honda's first panoramic sunroof, remote start, and a smart key with pushbutton start. There's also Siri Eyes Free, which allows Apple iPhone users to access Siri by activating a button on the steering wheel, as well as Tire Fill Assist, which honks the horn when you've filled a tire to the proper pressure.

The new cabin has a noticeably better grade of materials,

with a pleasing design and premium appearance. Front seat room is good and seats are comfortable. Second row passengers have a decent amount of legroom, and the seats are comfortable despite being mounted low in relation to the floor. And the cabin is remarkably quiet. One of the biggest improvements, however, can be found on the instrument panel, even if it's not without problems.

Honda has abandoned its use of two screens on the center stack, opting to follow the

NUTS & BOLTS

- Engine: 3.5-liter SOHC V6
- Horsepower: 280
- Torque: 262 pound-feet
- Wheelbase: 110 inches
- Length: 194.5 inches
- Cargo volume: 16.5-109.2 cubic feet
- Towing capacity 3,500-5,000 pounds
- Curb weight: 4,054-4,317 pounds
- EPA rating (city/highway): 18-20/26-27
- Fuel type: Regular unleaded
- NHSTA safety rating: Five stars
- Base prices: \$29,995-\$46,420

industry on using one screen. In this case, it's an eight-inch touchscreen powered by an Android operating system. Unfortunately, Honda uses the touchscreen for many audio functions, including those that are better handled by a simple knob. Also, the screen is used for Honda's Lane Watch system, which uses a camera to show vehicles in the driver's blind spot, but only on the right side of the vehicle, not the left.

And while you might appreciate seeing an image of what's on the right side, it obliterates anything on the screen, including navigation instructions of audio controls. Obviously, this isn't an issue on Hondas with two screens. Buyers can avoid this annoyance by opting for the Elite model. It uses a traditional blind spot monitoring system, not Lane Watch.

Other safety systems include stability assist, traction control, brake assist and anti-lock brakes with electronic brake distribution. Elite models also have a Rear Cross Traffic Monitor. A new Honda Sensing package includes collision mitigation

braking, forward collision warning, lane keeping assist, road departure mitigation, lane departure warning, and adaptive cruise control. The package is standard on Touring and Elite models, and is optional on EX and EX-L. But perhaps most importantly, Honda has revised the Pilot's front floor pan, incorporating added structure to mitigate the damage from an offset front crash, the most common type of accident.

All Pilots come with the same engine: a new direct-injected 3.5-liter, V6 rated at 280 horsepower and 262 pound-feet of torque. That's an increase of 30 horsepower and 9 pound-feet over the previous model. Power is delivered through one of two new transmissions. LX, EX and EX-L models get a six-speed automatic transmission, while Touring and Elite models get a nine-speed automatic. The new engine uses cylinder deactivation to shut off three cylinders under light loads. This allows for a one-mpg increase in fuel economy for six-speed models, and a two-mpg increase on nine-speed models.

Pilot buyers can opt for all-wheel-drive, which now includes dynamic torque vectoring, which funnels the power side-to-side, as well as front to back to improve handling and traction. In addition, a new Intelligent Traction Management allows the driver to choose among Normal, Snow, Mud and Sand modes on all-wheel-drive models; or Normal and Snow modes on front-wheel-drive models.

While you'd ever mistake the Pilot for anything remotely sporting, the new model is pleasingly responsive to drive, with precise steering that makes piloting the Pilot a fuss-free endeavor. That said, its ride seemed soft at times, exhibiting subtle body motions that came as a surprise being a Honda. Given the Pilot's demographic, buyers won't be concerned.

Just the Accord anchors the top of Honda's sedan line, the automaker is looking for the Pilot to anchor the top of its SUV line, which includes the smaller CR-V and new subcompact HR-V.

In many ways, this new Pilot updates the product so that it now matches the features offered by many of its competitors. Yes, believe it or not, Honda had some catching up to do, which that didn't seem to deter Honda buyers, who have been snapping up the current model at a record pace, despite the fact that the 2015 Pilot lacks many of the attributes of its replacement.

No doubt they'll soon have buyer's remorse. The new model is so improved, and so much better, there's little doubt that Honda will soon have a waiting list for the 2016 Pilot when it arrives in showrooms.

MOTORING Q&A

Two cars, same problem

By PAUL BRAND
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

Here are two completely different vehicles with a very similar problem.

Q: I have a 2010 Chevy Cobalt with just under 50,000 miles on it. It has a humming noise coming from the front when I get to 15-20 mph, noise that gets louder as I continue to accelerate but does not change when it shifts gears or if I turn left or right. I had my tires rebalanced and rotated with no improvement.

Q: We own an '06 all-wheel-drive V-6 Cadillac SRX that has a YUN, YUN, YUN sound I can feel in the driver's seat. In preparation for a road trip, I told my 30-year mechanic we needed to get this fixed. He discovered a broken pad on the left front and replaced both sides. Still have the YUN YUN. Next he raised the vehicle, got both front wheels turning and determined the left front bearing was not bad. Replaced right and left side bearings but still have the YUN YUN. Next, replaced both front rotors, still YUN

YUN YUN. Throughout these steps I have been raising the issue of CV joints but he said the undercarriage was clean and would have had extraneous lubricant if the boots were damaged. The tires are high-end and guaranteed and only have 20K on them. I had the fronts swapped side to side and balanced. Still YUN YUN. Next, replaced the rear rotors, still YUN YUN YUN.

He now feels that one of the pads may be defective and could be replaced through warranty. He asked me to take the car up to speed a few times and apply hard braking. Still YUN YUN YUN. It may be my imagination but it seems that the YUN YUN does not happen in the early part of a drive, only after a few miles.

As you can guess, it's driving me crazy and I hope you have some wisdom that will help.

A: So the Yun Yun is no fun, no pun intended! One of the problems with being a some-

what anal and caring car owner—and this is from personal experience—is becoming overly concerned and frustrated over an issue that is as much annoying as problematic. When this occurs, one tends to develop tunnel vision and focus on just one potential cause.

Looking at both cars, if the harmonic or rhythmical noise/sound is related to wheel speed, the likeliest suspects are tires, wheels, wheel hub/bearings, drive axles and brakes.

Even something like torque converter clutch slippage could be a possibility.

The tires are still a strong possibility so I'd suggest checking all the wheels and tires for run-out and out-of-round, then have them road balanced. Make sure the shop checks the wheels themselves for these issues.

Although the Cadillac AWD vehicle comes equipped with different size tires front and rear, check to make sure all four have the same rolling diameter. Mismatched tires may well be the problem.

One potential cause that may not have been checked is a dragging brake pad caused by

a sticking caliper slider or piston. The clue that may point to this is the noise developing after driving a few miles. You might be able to pinpoint this by driving 10-15 miles in urban stoplight conditions, then quickly pull over safely and sense the temperature of the each wheel as close to the hub as possible. An inexpensive infrared temperature gun is perfect but a quick touch with the back of your hand will identify any significant differences in temperature, which could indicate brake drag.

The front drive shafts/CV joints certainly could be the cause due to wear (they don't have to leak grease because of a failed rubber boot to develop enough wear to create an issue). With the car on a hoist, a strong arm can push/pull in/out and up/down to identify excess play in the shaft or joints.

Paul Brand, author of How to Repair Your Car, is an automotive trouble-shooter, driving instructor and former race-car driver. Readers may write to him at: Star Tribune, 425 Portland Ave. S., Minneapolis, Minn., 55488 or via email at paul.brand@startribune.com. Please explain the problem in detail and include a daytime phone number. Because of the volume of mail, we cannot provide personal replies.



Life & Style

CANNES, France (AP)—The 68th Cannes Film Festival was brought to a surprising close Sunday with Jacques Audiard's Sri Lankan refugee drama taking the festival's coveted top honor, the Palme d'Or.

The choice of "Dheepan," as selected by a jury led by Joel and Ethan Coen, left some critics scratching their heads. While the dapper French filmmaker has drawn widespread acclaim for films such as "A Prophet" and "Rust and Bone," some critics were disappointed by the thriller climax of Audiard's film. "Dheepan" is about a trio of Sri Lankans who pretend to be a family in order to flee their war-torn country and are settled in a violent housing project outside Paris.

"This isn't a jury of film critics," Joel Coen told reporters after the awards ceremony, alongside fellow jurors like Guillermo del Toro and Jake Gyllenhaal. "This is a jury of artists who are looking at the work."

The win for "Dheepan" comes at a time when Europe is particularly attuned to the experience of immigrants, following the recent deaths of hundreds crossing the Mediterranean, seeking Italian shores. Jury members, though, said "Dheepan" was chosen for its overall strength as a film, rather than any topicality.

"We all thought it was a very beautiful movie," said Ethan Coen, calling the decision "swift." "Everyone had some high level of excitement and enthusiasm for it."

Audiard, springing to the podium at the Palais des Festivals, accepted the award with warm gratitude, bowing to the jury. He was joined by the makeshift parents of his film: Kalieaswari Srinivasan and Antonythasan Jesuthasan, who himself was Tamil Tiger child soldier before finding political asylum in France.

"To receive a prize from the Coen brothers is exceptional," said Audiard, who added that only receiving one from the Luc and Jean-Pierre Dardenne, the Belgian filmmaking siblings, could equal it.

The runner-up prize, the Grand Prix, went to "Son of Saul," a grim Holocaust drama by first-time Hungarian director László Nemes. Some expected Nemes' horrifying plunge into the life of an Auschwitz worker to take the top award, but it's been 26 years since a debut film (Steven Soderbergh's "Sex, Lies, and Videotape") was given the Palme.

English actress Sienna Miller and Canadian actor Xavier Dolan, both jury members, sounded especially moved by "Son of Saul." Miller called it "breathtaking" and an extraordinary accomplishment for a first-time filmmaker.

"Europe is still haunted by

out of the 19 in competition and went home with three awards.

Yorgos Lanthimos, a Greek filmmaker working in English for the first time, took the jury prize for his "The Lobster," a deadpan dystopian comedy, starring Colin Farrell and Rachel Weisz, about a near-future where unmarried singles are turned into the animal of their choice.

"Chronic," an understated drama about a home-care nurse (Tim Roth) for the terminally ill, took best screenplay for Mexican writer-director Michel Franco. Franco and Roth met three years ago when Roth, serving on a Cannes jury, helped award Franco the Un Certain Regard prize. "It's a Cannes story," said Franco.

The Camera d'Or, Cannes award for best first feature film, went to "La Tierra Y la Sombra." César Augusto Acevedo's debut, which played in the Critics Week section, is about an old farmer returning home to tend to his gravely ill son.

The Coens themselves took the Palme in 1991 for "Barton Fink." The last two Cannes winners have been three-hour art-house epics: the glacial Turkish drama "Winter Sleep," chosen last year by Jane Campion's jury, and "Blue is the Warmest Color," as picked by Steven Spielberg's jury.

This year's competition slate left some critics calling it a so-so year for Cannes. Some of the films that drew the biggest raves ("Mad Max: Fury Road," Pixar's "Inside Out") played out of competition, while some in it (like Gus Van Sant's "The Sea of Trees") drew loud boos.

Audiard's 'Dheepan' wins Palme d'Or in upset Cannes finale



AP
Director Jacques Audiard holds the Palme d'Or award for the film Dheepan as he poses for photographers during a photo call following the awards ceremony at the 68th international film festival, Cannes, southern France, Sunday, May 24, 2015.

the destruction of the European Jews," said Nemes. "That's something that lives with us."

Hou Hsiao-Hsien, the masterful 68-year-old Taiwanese filmmaker, won best director for his first feature in eight years: "The Assassin," a lushly painterly martial arts drama.

The best actress prize was

split but not the way some expected. It was given to both Rooney Mara, half of the romantic pair of Todd Haynes' '50s lesbian drama "Carol," and Emmanuelle Bercot, the French star of the roller coaster marriage drama "My King." (Bercot also directed the festival opener, "Standing Tall,"

about a delinquent teenager.) Any split was presumed to go to Mara and her "Carol" costar, Cate Blanchett.

Best actor was awarded to Vincent Lindon, the veteran French actor of Stéphane Brizé's "The Measure of a Man." He plays a man struggling to make a living after a long period of

unemployment. The visibly moved Lindon won over some big-name competition, including Michael Caine, the star of Paolo Sorrentino's unrewarded "Youth," a wry, melancholy portrait of old age.

Lindon's award added to a banner year at Cannes for France, which had five films

After a decade online, YouTube is redefining celebrity

LOS ANGELES (AP)—It's a meet-and-greet worthy of an A-list star.

Outside the three-story bookstore at the outdoor shopping mecca known as The Grove, hundreds of mostly young women have formed a line that stretches past trendy clothing stores and spills out onto a nearby street. They're waiting to have Connor Franta, an affable 22-year-old Internet personality best known for delivering diary-like monologues on YouTube, sign a copy of his new memoir.

The irony of a YouTube star drawing a massive crowd at a bookstore isn't lost on talent manager Andrew Graham.

"A year ago, I went to New York and tried to get a book publisher to take a meeting with me," said Graham, who represents Franta and other mega-popular YouTubers. "I had one meeting, and they laughed at me. Here we are a year later at Barnes & Noble in Los Angeles with a New York Times

best-selling author who is a client. I think that says it all. It's a 180-degree turn."

Franta isn't a singer, chef, comedian or athlete. He's a YouTube star angling to be the Oprah Winfrey for millennials.

In its 10-years of existence, YouTube has evolved from a playground for kitty videos to a \$20 billion visual menagerie. Along the way, it's also become an incubator for a new type of celebrity—a digital Brat Pack that's leveraging smartphone stardom to write books, drop albums, design products and break into Hollywood.

"It's the most powerful marketing platform in the world for millennials," said Graham. "If you're trying to reach that

audience of girls gathered downstairs, YouTube is the venue to do that. Look at an artist like Fred (Lucas Crumkshank). He went off to Hollywood, created some films, neglected his channel, came back to YouTube and ... crickets. No one was there any-

more. You can't abandon it."

In recent years, YouTube, which is celebrating its 10th anniversary this month, has dropped up YouTubers like Franta—"creators," the site calls them—who attract millions of subscribers that regularly watch their online videos and the advertising attached to them.

Their popularity is still eclipsed by music videos, which continue to account for

YouTube's most watched clips. Yet the fandom that creators are inspiring, and the ad revenue they're bringing in, can't be ignored.

With his playful grin and doe eyes, Franta currently boasts more than 4.4 million devotees to his personal YouTube channel, where he speaks to viewers about life, dating, candy, whatever at least once a week. He began posting videos in 2010 while still attending high

school in La Crescent, Minnesota. Now, he's releasing music compilations and a line of locally grown coffee.

For every Justin Bieber or Psy, perhaps YouTube's biggest success stories, there are dozens of Frantas. It's a form of celebrity that didn't exist 10 years ago, when YouTube was born and made it simple

to post video online. Franta, who continues to upload videos despite his other endeavors, is

young enough to have been inspired by the YouTube vloggers that came before him.

"There are guys like Shane Dawson and Phillip DeFranco who I was a fan of, and now we're friends," said Franta, sequestered from fans behind racks of his book, "A Work in Progress," in the Barnes & Noble stockroom. "Do you know how awkward it would be to tell some of my friends that I watched them on You-

Tube in my bedroom before I knew them? It's weird to think of it like that."

The creators' importance to YouTube is evidenced by the Google-backed site bankrolling marketing campaigns the past two years featuring such famous (on the Internet) faces as Bethany Mota, Hannah Hart and Grace Helbig. While such creators vlog about very different topics, they usually share a similar aesthetic: improvised delivery, quirky editing and personalities that jump off screens.

Google has opened production facilities in London, Los Angeles, New York, Tokyo and Sao Paulo for creators who have more than 5,000 subscribers to film videos. The studios are equipped with sets and equipment that transcend most YouTubers' living rooms and webcams. The spaces also serve as social hubs for creators. Several of them will host 10th anniversary parties on Wednesday.



John Nash, wife, 'A Beautiful Mind' inspiration, die in NJ

TRENTON, N.J. (AP)—John Forbes Nash Jr., a mathematical genius whose struggle with schizophrenia was chronicled in the 2001 movie "A Beautiful Mind," has died along with his wife in a car crash on the New Jersey Turnpike. He was 86.

Nash and Alicia Nash, 82, of Princeton Township, were killed in a taxi crash Saturday, state police said. A colleague who had received an award with Nash in Norway earlier in the week said they had just flown home and the couple had taken a cab home from the airport.

Russell Crowe, who portrayed Nash in "A Beautiful Mind," tweeted that he was "stunned."

"An amazing partnership," he wrote. "Beautiful minds, beautiful hearts."

In a statement Sunday, his co-star in the film, Jennifer Connelly, called the couple "an inspiration," and the film's di-

rector, Ron Howard, tweeted that "it was an honor telling part of their story."

Known as brilliant and eccentric, Nash was associated with Princeton University for many years, most recently serving as a senior research mathematician. He won the Nobel Prize in economics in 1994 for his work in game theory, which offered insight into the dynamics of human rivalry. It is considered one of the most influential ideas of the 20th century.

Just a few days ago, Nash had received a prize from the Norwegian Academy of Sciences and Letters in Oslo with New York University mathematician Louis Nirenberg, who said he'd chatted with the couple for an hour at the airport in Newark before they'd gotten a cab. Nirenberg said Nash was a truly great mathematician and "a kind of genius."

Princeton University President

Actress Anne Meara, mom of Ben Stiller, dies

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Actress and comedian Anne Meara, whose comic work with husband Jerry Stiller helped launch a 60-year career in film and TV, has died. She was 85.

Jerry Stiller and son Ben Stiller say Meara died Saturday. No other details were provided.

The Stiller family released a statement to The Associated Press on Sunday describing Jerry Stiller as Meara's "husband and partner in life."

"The two were married for 61 years and worked together almost as long," the statement said.

The couple performed as Stiller & Meara on "The Ed Sullivan Show" and other programs in the 1960s and won awards for the radio and TV commercials they made together. Meara also appeared in dozens of films and TV shows, including a longtime role on "All My Children" and



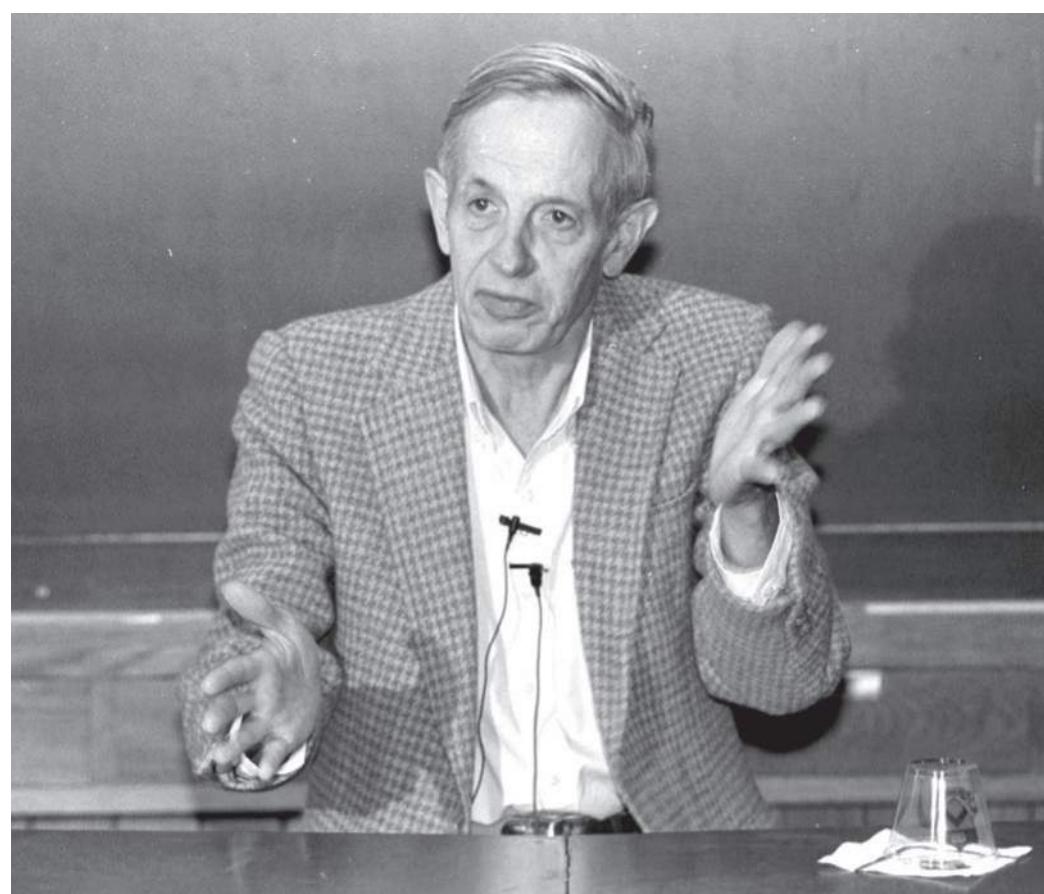
Meara

recurring appearances on "Rhoda," "Alf," "Sex and the City" and "The King of Queens." She shared the screen with her son in 2006's "Night at the Museum."

Meara was twice nominated for an Emmy Award for her supporting role on "Archie Bunker's Place," along with two other Emmy nods, most recently in 1997 for her guest-starring role on "Homicide." She won a Writers Guild Award for co-writing the 1983 TV movie "The Other Woman."

Besides her husband and son, Meara is survived by her daughter, Amy, and several grandchildren.

The family statement said: "Anne's memory lives on in the hearts of daughter Amy, son Ben, her grandchildren, her extended family and friends, and the millions she entertained as an actress, writer and comedienne."



eral months in New Jersey hospitals on an involuntary basis.

However, Nash's schizophrenia diminished through the 1970s and 1980s as he "gradually began to intellectually reject some of the delusionally influenced lines of thinking," he wrote.

The 2001 film "A Beautiful Mind" won four Oscars, including best picture and best director, and generated interest in John Nash's life story. The movie was based on an unauthorized biography by Sylvia Nasar, who wrote that Nash's contemporaries found him "immensely strange" and "slightly cold, a bit superior, somewhat secretive."

Much of his demeanor likely stemmed from mental illness, which began emerging in 1959 when Alicia was pregnant with a son. The film, though, did not mention Nash's older son or to the years that he and Alicia spent living together after divorcing. The couple split in 1963, then resumed living together several years later and finally remarried in 2001.

Born in Bluefield, W. Va., to an electrical engineer and a housewife, Nash had read the classic "Men of Mathematics" by E.T. Bell by the time he was in high school. He planned to follow in his father's footsteps and studied for three years at the Carnegie Institute of Technology in Pittsburgh (now Carnegie Mellon University), but instead developed a passion for mathematics.

"We were all so happy together," Nirenberg said. "It seemed like a dream."

New Jersey State Police say the Nashes were both ejected from the cab in the crash around 4:30 p.m. Saturday in Monroe Township, about 15 miles northeast of Trenton. The cab driver was hospitalized.

News of the deaths was

shocking to Nirenberg.

at their courage in the face of daunting challenges," Eisgruber said in a statement.

"John's remarkable achievements inspired generations of mathematicians, economists and scientists who were influenced by his brilliant, groundbreaking work in game theory, and the story of his life with Alicia moved millions of readers and moviegoers who marveled

at their courage in the face of daunting challenges," Eisgruber said in a statement.

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Redford to college graduates: World needs you; be fearless

WATERVILLE, Maine (AP)—Two-time Academy Award winner Robert Redford is encouraging college graduates to be fearless in a world of challenges and to become collaborators with others and the environment to overcome life's daunting difficulties.

Redford was the commencement speaker Sunday at Maine's Colby College. He received an honorary degree of fine arts from the school before an audience of thousands, including nearly 500 graduates.

"You're stepping into a world that's, well, pretty rough. It's pretty chaotic, pret-

ty divisive," Redford told them. "You've got climate change, you've got debt, you've got wars, you've got political paralysis. It's kind of a grim story. But the story, I think, can be retold, and I really believe that you're the ones to do it."

The 78-year-old actor, director, and producer told the graduates they have been given the tools to make a difference.

"Don't be afraid to take a risk, don't be afraid of failure, be bold," he said, adding that what the world needs is "collaboration and connection," not only between

people and people but also between people and the environment.

Redford's grandson was among the class of 2015, the Morning Sentinel reported.

Redford, whose speech appeared on the college's website, is the founder of the Sundance Film Festival. He is known for such films as "Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid," "Quiz Show," "All The President's Men," and "The Way We Were." He received an Oscar for his directorial debut of "Ordinary People," as well as one for Lifetime Achievement.

Wife wants out of marriage to join the woman she loves

DEAR ABBY: I'm a 48-year-old woman. I have known I was gay since I was 14. No one knows because I never acted on it until I met "Bob," my current common-law husband of 25 years. I fell in love with his sister, "Janelle," back then. We kissed a few times and fell deeply in love, but because we didn't want to hurt Bob, we ended what we had.

Bob and I raised my son, who is being married this year. Through all these years my feelings and Janelle's have never changed. We love each other and want the chance to be together that we were denied back then.

I have given Bob 25 faithful years. I love him, but I am not in love with him. We are like two ships passing in the night. He has a temper and is vindictive. I want out of this relationship to be with his sister. I have asked her to marry me, and she agreed. We don't want to hurt Bob, but we love each other. Please advise me how to tell my husband I want out and want to be with his sister.

WANTS OUT BACK EAST

DEAR WANTS OUT: Considering that Bob has a temper and can be vindictive, I suggest you do it in stages. The first is to tell him that you are not happy in the marriage and haven't been for a long time. Depending upon your talent as an actress for the last quarter-century, he may or may not be surprised.

Then it will be time to tell him that you have known for a long time that you were more attracted to women than to men. Because you can't predict how he will react, do it in the presence of someone else—but NOT Janelle.

Because there can be legal ramifications regarding a common-law marriage, you should discuss this with a lawyer before telling Bob you want a divorce. Only after you have left him and several months have elapsed should you and his sister let it be known that you plan to have a life together. I say that because vindictive people with nasty tempers can be violent.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: My wife and I are in our 50s and have legal custody of three of our grandchildren, who are between the ages of 3 and 8 years old. We have been raising them since birth.

My wife is nearing the end of her battle with cancer. My family—my mother, siblings and son—keep asking me what I'm going to do when my wife passes away. They say they know people who would adopt the children. I don't wish to be nasty, but I need to let them know that I am able to take care of my grandchildren.

Can you please tell me how to tell my family that I can raise my grandchildren without hurting their feelings like they have hurt mine when they mention adoption?

HURT GRANDFATHER IN PENNSYLVANIA

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



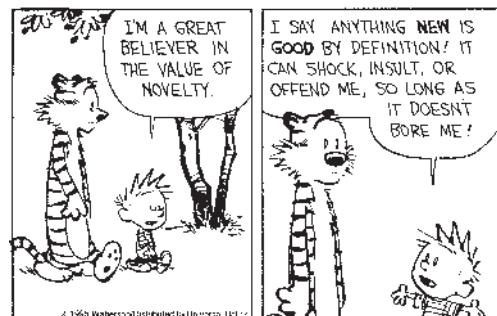
DEAR HURT: Yes, the words to use are: "When you say that to me, it hurts me deeply, so please don't say it again. I will raise these children just as I always have, and I do not plan to ever turn them over to strangers." Period. Expressing it this way is not hurtful; it clarifies your feelings.

■■■

Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$14 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Cookbook Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes



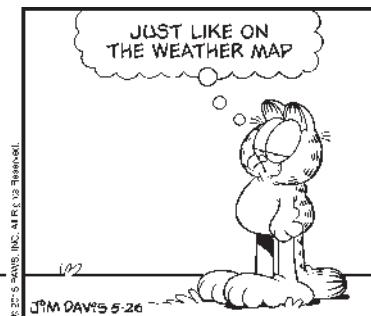
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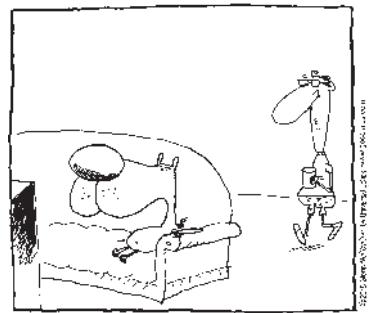


Adam@home

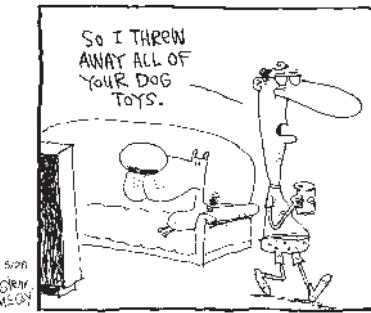


By Bryan Basset

The Duplex



By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

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All positions close 5:00pm on Friday, June 12, 2015.

Applications are available at the Marianas Medical Center. Applications should include a resume and evidence of education degree(s) and professional licenses claimed. Incomplete applications will not be considered. Marianas Medical Center is an equal opportunity employer.

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LeBron's triple-double helps Cavs top Hawks in thriller



CLEVELAND
(AP)—LeBron James dropped to his knees and slapped the floor with his hand.

He was exhausted and exhilarated—and one win from the NBA Finals.

"I gave everything I have," James said.

James shook off an atrocious shooting start, withstood Atlanta's gritty comeback and battled cramps and injuries to record a triple-double, and the Cleveland Cavaliers took a 3-0 lead in the Eastern Conference finals with a 114-111 overtime victory on Sunday night.

James missed his first 10 shots, but finished with 37 points, 18 rebounds and 13 assists. The Cavs needed every single one of them to hold off the top-seeded Hawks, who fought Cleveland until the final seconds despite being without injured shooter Kyle Korver and losing Al Horford, who was ejected in the first half.

James, who favored his right leg for most of the fourth quarter and asked to come out of the game in OT before re-considering, hit a 3-pointer with 36.4 seconds left to put the Cavs ahead by one, and the superstar dropped a runner with 12.8 left to make it 114-111.

"He just wouldn't let us lose," coach David Blatt said.

Atlanta had two chances to tie it in the final seconds, but Shelvin Mack missed two 3-pointers.

When the final horn sounded, James collapsed to the floor and had to be helped to his feet by his teammates. It was their turn to carry him.

James received treatment following the game and the four-time league MVP grimaced as he took his seat on the podium for the postgame news conference.



The Hawks took a one-point lead into the third quarter when James decided to seize control of the game. He recorded 15 points, six rebounds and six assists in the period as Cleveland went ahead by 10.

Already in a bind, the Hawks were dealt another major blow when Horford was ejected in the final minute of the first half for throwing an elbow at Dellavedova's head.

As the two hustled for a loose ball on the floor, Dellavedova rolled up on Horford's right leg and the Atlanta big man responded by bringing his right arm down hard and appearing to connect with the side of the scrappy Australian guard's face.

The three officials took their time watching a review of the play before assessing Horford a Flagrant 2 and tossing him. At that point, Horford had been the Hawks' best player with 14 points.

"I did think he went at me, but I should have handled it better," Horford said. "Shouldn't have gotten caught up in that and it's something I'll definitely learn from."

A few of the Hawks accused Dellavedova of playing dirty. After all, he was the one who accidentally injured Korver in Game 2.

"I would obviously disagree with that, I was boxing him out," Dellavedova said. "You can see from the baseline view that he's pulling my arm."

James defended Dellavedova.

"We're not trying to get people hurt," James said. "But you play to win the game and you play aggressively. This guy, he works his tails off every single day. He beats the odds and he comes to play as hard as he can every single night. If they're focusing on Delly, they're focusing on the wrong thing."

AP
Cleveland Cavaliers' LeBron James, lies exhausted on the floor after the Cavaliers beat the Atlanta Hawks 114-111 in overtime in Game 3 of the Eastern Conference finals of the NBA basketball playoffs Sunday, May 24, 2015, in Cleveland.

"I've been better," he said when asked how he was feeling. "I play to exhaustion. I give as much as I can give, and sometimes the body just shuts down."

"In overtime I asked to come out, but I actually had a second thought. I wouldn't have felt right about the situation. It was mind over matter there for me. I'm playing through a lot but it doesn't matter. If I'm putting on the uniform and I'm on the floor, I have to make things happen for our team. It's that simple."

James will have just one day to rest up before the Cavs

try to earn their second Finals trip—and the fifth in a row for James—in Game 4 on Tuesday night.

Jeff Teague scored 30 points and Paul Millsap 22 for the Hawks, who scratched and clawed for 53 minutes.

Down 10 in the fourth, the Hawks showed championship toughness and nearly pulled off a win that would have guaranteed them another home game on Thursday. They'll have to dig deep again, and they are facing long odds to win the series as no NBA team has ever overcome a 3-0 deficit.

"I'm very proud of the way our guys competed," coach Mike Budenholzer said.

Teague dropped a nasty, step-back jumper with 55 seconds left to put the Hawks up 111-109, but James answered—following an offensive rebound by Tristan Thompson—to knock down a corner 3 like the one he made at the buzzer to beat Chicago in the second round, making it 112-111 with 36.4 seconds left.

James then hit his runner over Millsap and the Cavs and 20,000 fans held their breath as Mack took two

cracks at the rim.

The Cavs, who have been without forward Kevin Love since the opening round, were again missing All-Star guard Kyrie Irving, sidelined for his second straight game with an injured left knee.

But Cleveland has James, and even on a night when his shot wasn't falling, he carried the Cavs, who can earn their first trip to the Finals since James took them there in 2007.

Matthew Dellavedova, starting for Irving, and J.R. Smith added 17 points apiece for Cleveland.

hoped some normalcy would be restored and both sides could start moving forward while repairing any frayed ends on the relationship.

He was reinstated from his suspension by Commissioner Roger Goodell last month and Zimmer said last week that he wasn't concerned about the drama surrounding Peterson lingering into the summer. But the decision to skip this week's workouts, which was first reported by the St. Paul Pioneer Press, ensures that the issue will remain front and center leading into the team's mandatory minicamp June 16-18. The Vikings also have optional practices June 2-4 and 8-11.

If Peterson skipped the mandatory minicamp, he would be subject to hefty fines from the team.

The Vikings are counting on the 30-year-old Peterson's return to make things easier for second-year quarterback Teddy Bridgewater and give offensive coordinator Norv Turner the kind of game-breaker in the backfield that the team lacked in his absence last year.

Source: Peterson tells coach he won't be at OTAs



MINNEAPOLIS
(AP)—The Minnesota Vikings will open their optional team practices this week without Adrian Peterson.

The star running back has told coach Mike Zimmer that he will not attend the three days of team work that begin Tuesday, a person with knowledge of the situation told The Associated Press on Sunday night. The person requested anonymity because he was not authorized to speak publicly on the issue.

Peterson did attend the optional workouts last summer while Zimmer was orienting himself in his first months on the job, but has skipped them in the past. This time, however, could cost him a \$250,000 workout bonus and comes in the context of his expressed unhappiness with the organization.

Peterson has made it clear through his representatives this offseason that he would like to

Sources: Goodell will not recuse self from Brady appeal

NEW YORK (AP)—Roger Goodell will hear Tom Brady's appeal of his four-game suspension for his role in the deflated footballs scandal.

Goodell will not withdraw from what the commissioner considers his responsibility of hearing the appeal, according to several people with knowledge of the decision. Those people spoke on condition of anonymity because no official announcement has been made.

The union asked Goodell to remove himself from that role because it said he lacked impartiality and that Goodell would be called as a witness. NFL lawyers, however, have recommended to Goodell that he should not recuse himself.

No date has been set for the appeal, although the collective bargaining agreement calls for it to be heard within 10 days. However, both sides can agree on delaying

a hearing, which would need to be held by Wednesday without any requested delays.

Brady was suspended for the first four games of the 2015 season after a league-sanctioned report by attorney Ted Wells found the New England quarterback "at least generally aware" of a scheme to illegally deflate footballs used in the AFC title game win over Indianapolis. On Wednesday at the spring owners meetings, Goodell said he was aware of the union's request but had not yet had time to examine it.

Since then, league lawyers were able to look it over and make their recommendation he remain on the case.

But it seemed clear Wednesday that he planned to oversee the appeal hearing.

"It's my job here to make sure we're doing everything to protect the integrity of the game, protect our policies, protect our procedures," Goodell said then. "We have

play elsewhere next season because he does not believe the Vikings showed enough support of him while he was deal-

ing with child abuse charges last season. Peterson missed all but one game last year while addressing the charges.

The Vikings have steadfastly maintained that they would not trade Peterson, who is still under contract for three more seasons

and is set to make \$12.75 million next season. Once the team made it through the draft without moving him, team officials

Rangers deals Yanks 10th loss in 11 games



**N E W
Y O R K
(A P) —**

Adam Rosales hit a two-run homer off Chris Capuano that bounced off the top of the left-field wall, and Yovani Gallardo won for the second time since mid-April as the Texas Rangers sent the New York Yankees to their 10th loss in 11 games with a 5-2 victory Sunday.

Prince Fielder had three hits and two RBIs for the Rangers, who swept the three-game series and extended a winning streak to five for the first time since September.

Texas then headed to Cleveland, where Josh Hamilton is to start in left on Monday night. The 2010 AL MVP, who has seen sidetracked by drug and alcohol problems plus shoulder surgery, was acquired from the Angels on April 27 and will be making his first appearance for the Rangers since 2012.

New York held a pregame ceremony to retire Bernie Williams' No. 51 and unveil a plaque in his honor in Monument Park, and then had another night of pitching and defensive struggles. The Yankees have lost six straight in a single season for the first time since May 11-16, 2011, and have 10 defeats in an 11-game span for the first time since May 23 to June 3, 1995, according to STATS.

Gallardo (4-6) allowed Brian McCann's two-run single in the first, and then pitched shutout ball through the sixth and wound up giving up four hits with six strikeouts and one walk. Sam Freeman retired McCann on an inning-ending flyout with two on in the eighth, and Shawn Tolleson struck out the side in the ninth for his third save. Capuano (0-2) was the loser.

Padres 11, Dodgers 3

In Los Angeles, Justin Upton hit a grand slam and drove in six runs and San Diego broke loose, backing unbeaten James Shields in a victory over Los Angeles.

The Padres had totaled just three runs in losing four straight games. Upton hit a slam in the first inning before Carlos Frias recorded an out and Will Middlebrooks later homered to help stake Shields (6-0) to a 9-0 lead through three.

The All-Star right-hander became the first Padres starter to win his first six decisions since 1985, when Andy Hawkins began 11-0.

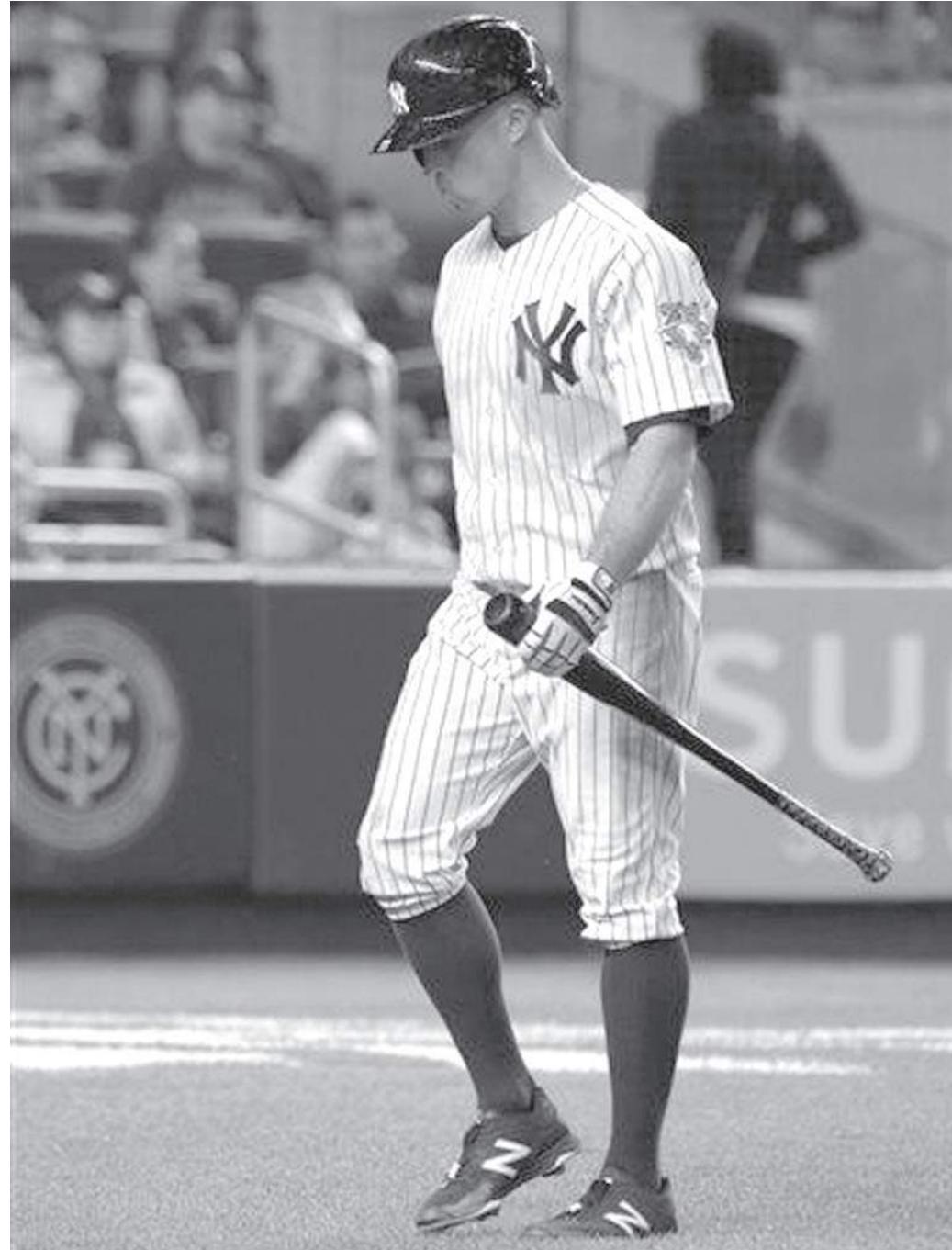
New to the Padres this year, Shields allowed three runs in seven innings and struck out seven. He started a four-run burst in the second inning with a leadoff single.

Shields also went 6-0 over his first 13 starts in 2007 season with Tampa Bay.

Frias (3-2) was tagged for 10 runs and 12 hits in four-plus innings.

Indians 5, Reds 2

In Cleveland, Trevor Bauer



AP
New York Yankees' Brett Gardner reacts after striking out during the fifth inning of a baseball game against the Texas Rangers Sunday, May 24, 2015, at Yankee Stadium in New York.

pitched into the eighth inning as Cleveland extended its winning streak to six games with a victory over slumping Cincinnati.

Cincinnati has dropped eight in a row, its longest losing streak since 2009. The Reds have been outscored 54-19 during the streak that has dropped them to a season-worst seven games under .500 at 18-25.

Cleveland, which has won eight of 10, took advantage of three Cincinnati errors to continue its hottest stretch of the season. David Murphy, Nick Swisher and Carlos Santana each drove in a run.

Bauer (4-1) took a shutout into the seventh when Marlon Byrd hit a solo homer for the only run allowed by the right-hander in 7 2-3 innings.

Rookie Raisel Iglesias (1-1), starting in place of Johnny Cueto, allowed two runs in three innings. The Reds announced Saturday that the rookie from Cuba would replace Cueto, who has a sore right elbow.

In Pittsburgh, Francisco Liriano kept up Pittsburgh's strikeout parade, fanning 12 as the Pirates beat New York for a three-game sweep.

After Gerrit Cole fanned 10 in the opener and A.J. Burnett struck out 10 more Saturday,

Liriano (2-4) topped them in only six innings. Liriano gave up one run and six hits.

Andrew McCutchen and Starling Marte homered for the Pirates.

Jonathon Niese (3-5) allowed four runs on seven hits and four walks in 4 2-3 innings.

The Mets finished 4-10 in a 14-game stretch against teams from the NL Central.

Nationals 4, Phillies 1

In Washington, Bryce Harper drove in two runs and Gio Gonzalez outpitched Aaron Harang as Washington beat Philadelphia for its eighth straight series win.

Harper gave the Nationals a 2-1 lead with a run-scoring groundout in the fifth inning and added an RBI single in the seventh. In addition to moving into the NL lead with 41 RBIs, he also increased his league-leading totals in walks (39) and runs (39).

The 22-year-old Harper also threw out a runner from right field on a force play at second base.

Gonzalez (4-2) allowed one run and seven hits in 6 1-3 innings to win his third straight decision. It was his 46th victory with Washington, tied with Stephen Strasburg for second in Nationals history behind Jordan Zimmermann (60). Drew Storen, the fifth Washington pitcher, worked the

ninth for his 14th save.

Harang (4-4) gave up two runs and seven hits in six innings.

Rockies 11, Giants 2

In Denver, Nolan Arenado had four hits and four RBIs, leading Chad Bettis and Colorado past San Francisco.

Troy Tulowitzki and Nick Hundley each drove in two runs to help the Rockies split the rain-soaked, four-game series.

Bettis (1-0) was nearly unhittable until the ninth inning. Nori Aoki singled on the first pitch of the game, and San Francisco's next hit was Matt Duffy's lead-off single in the eighth.

Bettis was charged with two runs and six hits in 8 1-3 innings. Brooks Brown got the last two outs.

Astros 10, Tigers 8

In Detroit, Evan Gattis and Preston Tucker homered in the sixth inning as Houston slugged its way to another victory, rallying past Detroit.

The Astros trailed 7-3 before scoring four runs in the sixth, including Tucker's three-run shot as a pinch hitter that tied the game. The following inning, Jason Castro lined a tiebreaking two-run single with the bases loaded and two out.

Joe Thatcher (1-1) got the win

by pitching the sixth—the first of four innings of work by the Houston bullpen. Luke Gregerson allowed a homer to Miguel Cabrera in the ninth but held on for his 12th save in 13 chances. Detroit reliever Alex Wilson (1-1) took the loss.

Marlins 5, Orioles 2

In Miami, Martin Prado homered to cap a 12-pitch at-bat and drove in two runs, helping Miami beat Baltimore for its first series win since May 3.

Baltimore left-hander Brian Matusz pitched two scoreless innings, a day after he was ejected for having a sticky substance on his non-throwing arm. The Orioles await a decision from Major League Baseball regarding further punishment.

The Marlins won their second game in a row after losing eight straight and finished 2-8 on their homestand, which included a managerial change. New manager Dan Jennings improved to 2-5.

Tom Koehler (3-3) retired the first 13 batters and allowed one run in 6 1-3 innings. He has an 0.82 ERA in 22 innings over his past four outings. A.J. Ramos pitched a perfect ninth for his second save in four chances, completing a six-hitter. Miguel Gonzalez (5-3) was the loser.

Red Sox 6, Angels 1

In Boston, Mike Napoli hit his fourth homer of the series and drove in four runs and Wade Miley allowed one run in eight innings as Boston beat Los Angeles.

Napoli belted a two-run home run, two-run double and improved his career average to .333 with 18 homers and 36 RBIs in 47 games against his former team.

Mike Trout had an RBI double for the Angels, who closed a 10-game trip against AL East teams at 5-5.

Xander Bogaerts went 4 for 4 with a double and three singles for the Red Sox.

Diamondbacks 4, Cubs 3

In Phoenix, Paul Goldschmidt hit his second home run in three days as Arizona beat Chicago to win the three-game series.

Goldschmidt's 12th home run of the season, a two-run shot to the porch in deep right-center, put Arizona up 4-1 in the third. He also singled in a run in the first.

Miguel Montero homered against his former Arizona teammates, a solo shot to the opposite field. Chris Coghlan hit a two-run homer that cut the Diamondbacks' lead to 4-3 in the fifth.

Jeremy Hellickson (2-2), who played for Cubs manager Joe Maddon when the two were with Tampa Bay, allowed three runs on four hits in 6 2-3 innings to get the win. He also had his first career RBI.

Braves 2, Brewers 1

In Atlanta, rookie Mike Foltynewicz allowed just three hits for 7 2-3 innings, leading Atlanta past

Milwaukee.

Foltynewicz (3-1) allowed one run in his longest start in the majors. He struck out seven.

The 23-year-old Foltynewicz was one of three players acquired by Atlanta in the offseason trade that sent Evan Gattis to Houston. He was called up from Triple-A Gwinnett on May 1.

Jason Grilli struck out three in the ninth for his 13th save.

Cardinals 6, Royals 1

In Kansas City, Missouri, unbeaten Michael Wacha won for the seventh straight time this year as St. Louis beat Kansas City to end its season-worst three-game losing streak.

Wacha held the majors' best-hitting team to one unearned run and five singles in seven innings. He exited with a 1.87 ERA and became the first Cardinals pitcher to start 7-0 since Matt Morris began 8-0 in 2005.

Blue Jays 8, Mariners 2

In Toronto, Edwin Encarnacion and Ryan Goins homered, Aaron Sanchez won for the first time in three starts as Toronto beat the Seattle Mariners to avoid a three-game sweep.

Sanchez (4-4) allowed two runs and seven hits in 6 2-3 innings to help Toronto win for the third time in 12 games.

Seattle's Kyle Seager homered for the second straight game, a solo shot in the second, but the Mariners were unable to complete what would have been their first sweep in Toronto since May 2001.

Athletics 7, Rays 2

In St. Petersburg, Florida, Sonny Gray limited Tampa Bay to four hits in five scoreless innings before leaving with a bruised right ankle as Oakland beat the Rays.

Gray (5-2) was hit on the lower leg by James Loney's grounder in the fourth, but stayed in for a while longer. He had lost his previous two starts.

Billy Burns hit the first pitch of the game into the right-field seats for his first major league homer. Mark Canha and Josh Reddick also homered as the A's won consecutive games for the second time this season. The only other time they did it was April 13-14 against Houston.

Twins 8, White Sox 1

In Chicago, Brian Dozier homered twice and drove in four runs in Minnesota's victory over Chicago.

Dozier hit a solo shot off Jose Quintana (2-5) in the first inning and a three-run homer off Scott Carroll in the seventh for his second career multi-home run game.

Kyle Gibson (4-3) struck out eight, tying a career high, and allowed a run and four hits in eight innings. Jose Abreu homered in the fourth for the White Sox run.

MHS bets win; SSHS, KHS top teams

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER



Marianas High School bets ruled the boys and girls individual titles, while Saipan Southern High School and Kagman High School topped the boys and girls divisions, respectively, when the Marianas Interscholastic Sports Organization golf

league ended its 2014-2015 season last Friday at the Lao Lao Bay Golf & Resort.

MHS' Daniel Han clinched the boys' trophy after firing a 31-under 113 in the four Thursdays they played in the 9-hole event at Lao Lao's west course.

The boys' used the 3,148-yard white tee while the girls' at the 2,704-yard red tee from holes No. 10 to 18.

Kagman's Michael Muna came in second, while Su Young

and MHS finished third.

Su A Kim, Han's teammate with the Dolphins, carded a 19-under 125 to rule the girls side.

Imma Litulmar and Romana Chong, both from the Lady Ayuyus, were the second and third place finishers in the girls' side.

The Jimie Horath-coached Saipan Southern, on the other hand regained the boys crown it last won in 2012.

Ivan Seo, Jae Lee, Ju Hwon Bae, Joong Min Lee, and Jee

Seong Son had a combined score of 71-under to dethrone Kagman.

Kagman was 10 shots back at 61-under while MHS tallied 51-under.

It was the Manta Rays' fourth overall title as they clinched three straight boys crown from 2010 to 2012.

The Ayuyus were the inaugural golf champions in 2009 and regained the title in 2013 but failed to defend their trophy.

Kagman, meanwhile, got

back the girls crown it last won in 2009 as the Lady Ayuyus, co-coached by Marcy Halstead and James Priest, shot 25-under.

The Lady Dolphins went 21-under for runner-up honors, while the Lady Mantas went even par.

Saipan Southern was hoping to win a fifth straight crown after topping the event from 2010 to 2013.

Deevone Anson and Alyssa Cepeda joined Litulmar and Chong in the Kagman girls team.



Saipan Southern High School, left, and Kagman High School teams pose with their trophies after winning the boys and girls divisions in last Friday's finals of the Marianas Interscholastic Sports Organization golf league at the Lao Lao Bay Golf & Resort.

TAN

From Page 28

match, as he joined a bunch of players inside the penalty box to battle for the ball after a corner kick. He won the scramble and kicked the ball in, which MP United goalie Christopher Aninzo failed to save as he dove in late.

Fruit, on the other hand, scored off a penalty kick after MP United's Kennedy Izuka was called for a hand ball in the 58th minute near inside the penalty area (right side). Fruit went for the straight kick from the left and the ball rolled fast with Aninzo failing to anticipate the move and slide to his

right side for the save.

Down by two with the clock ticking, MP United was pressured to make several attempts to make it to the board and its repeated efforts were finally rewarded in the 65th minute when Greg Sablan knocked in a header off Dakota Hall's corner kick.

Still behind, MP United remained with a sense of urgency in the last 20 minutes of the match and had two good chances to equalize. The first one came in the 19th minute when Kennedy Izuka sent a long pass to Hall, who was ahead of his defenders. Hall received the ball and took a few dribbles before unloading a left cross. Unfortunately, the ball failed to roll in

and was way off to the right.

Hall had another opportunity to drill the game-tying goal a few minutes later, but his shot off a feed from Sunjoon Tenorio was wide to the left.

Tan Holdings also made repeated attempts to put the game away in the late stages of the game with Kim the closest to score, as he nearly converted a lob from the penalty arc. However, Aninzo saw the ball soaring and tossed it out, frustrating Kim's bid for a second goal.

Despite missing the shot, Kim and company still had the last laugh as they managed to keep the shaky lead en route to the division title-clinching win.

Joining Cosmos Kim and

Fruit on the champion team are goalie Joshua Galarion, Se Young Kim, Mareko Tekopua, Yoshi Mafnas, Alan Hinson, Kautong Omengkar, Emmanuel Aniana, Sean Perez, Ryan and Reniel Relucio, Won Jun Kim, Louie Calayad, Jeremie Tanghal, and Junsik Kim. Ruselle Zapanta coached the squad, stepping in for Jersh Angeles, who was off-island.

"I was a bit pressured when I took over from coach Jersh, but at the same time I was challenged to get the job done and help the boys. I still used some of his strategy and make some additions. Basically, our game plan was to be aggressive on offense. Keep on attacking and be

not afraid of MPU defenders. I told them to trust their skills and do not mind the physicality of the game. This was a battle for the championship and everyone should expect and be ready for a tough game," Zapanta said.

Zapanta had to coach Tan Holdings for another game, as the squad lost the last regular season match early this month, 0-2. MP United and Tan Holdings ended the three-round regular season with similar 7-1-1 record.

"The players were sad when we lost and were forced to another game. However, I told them to just forget about it and concentrate on this one," Zapanta added.

ROBERT

From Page 28

and was the lone bowler to hit the 200-mark average. He added three more 200-plus pinfall scores (229 and 233 in the first two games and 230 in Game 5) and recorded 191, 196, 185, and 160 in the four other games.

Omechelang owned the best single game score (267 in Game 1) in the tournament, but was inconsistent in the remaining 11 games to fall short in his bid for the men's championships, which he last won in 2012. Omechelang's other scores were 176, 156, 205, 234, 197,

150, 182, 181, 213, and 213 for an average of 197.17.

Joining Talavera and Omechelang in the Top 3 was Ruselle Zapanta, who gained 2,333 pinfalls. He had five 200-plus Games (213, 201, 225, 213, and 209) to go with his 166, 188, 193, 168, 168, and 176 for a 194.42 12-game average.

Talavera received a trophy and \$750 cash prize, while Omechelang and Zapanta pocketed \$350 and \$200, respectively. Raul Dumapit (2,308), Raphael Zapanta (2,243), and Edgar Abalos (2,191), who were ranked fourth to sixth, also came home with cash prizes of

\$100, \$70, and \$50.

Other players who participated in the men's division were Musca (2,158), Ramir De Leon (2,126), Ador Dimaano (2,122), Simon Manacop (2,119), Ariel Dumapit (2,073), Lito Teodoro (2,033), Ed Baluyan (1,973), Castro (1,964), Ronald Epan (1,915), Ronald Batac (1,915), Jorge Soledad (1,912), and Bernhard Paraiso (1,788).

In the women's division, Diana Camacho earned a 44-pinfall winning margin against Kathy Mersai, 2,088-2,044, to bag her third crown in the last four staging of the annual event. Camacho won back-to-back

(2012 and 2013) before missing a 3-peat last year, as she finished only fight behind first time champion Lori Terre.

Diana started strong with her 223 in Game 1 and never relinquished the lead from there on to beat 16 other keglers. She registered her second 200-plus pinfalls in Game 8 (201) to add with her 166, 170, 162, 151, 150, 191, 159, 188, 158, and 169 for an average of 174.

Only Diana and Mersai reached the 2,000-pinfall mark in 12 games, as eventual third placer and the former's daughter Carrie finished only 1,988. Mersai and Carrie averaged 170.33

and 165.67, respectively.

Diana was awarded with \$400 and a trophy. Mersai earned \$250, while Carrie, Ron Cal (1,954) and Lucy Deleon Guerrero (1,914) received \$120, \$75, and \$50.

Others who joined the women's division contest were Elena Soll (1,907), Yho Vilavlicencio (1,897), Emi Williams (1,882), Georgia Satoshi (1,874), Gloria Omechelang (1,832), Tess Fabie (1,787), Debra Aldan (1,754), Lala Taitano (1,750), Diane Chong (1,733), Sue Ellis (1,713), Janice Camacho (1,706), and Lynn Santos (1,679).

RABAULIMAN

From Page 28

do something which has never been done before," added Rabauliman, who started his Saipan Little League career as a shortstop.

He said that he is thankful that he grew up in a small island that is passionate about baseball. "That's what made me and I'm very proud to be from Saipan."

He became a pitcher during his teenage years and started for the CNMI Junior League All-

Star team—the 2009 Asia-Pacific-Middle East region representatives—that played in the World Series in Taylor, Michigan.

Australia-based Seattle Mariners scout Ray Brown saw Rabauliman pitch in the 2009 Micronesian Games in Palau where

the then 15-year-old hurler played for the CNMI national team.

Brown witnessed Rabauliman threw 85-mile-per-hour pitches and was the one who encouraged the youngster to pursue his baseball dream in the mainland.

Having an entire island sup-

Japanese sweep in doubles

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



Japan's Tomohiro Masa-bayashi and Kento Yamada survived an extended finale to take the doubles championship in the 2015 IT&E Northern Marianas Junior Championships last Saturday at the Pacific Islands Club tennis courts.

The Japanese pair as pitted against the Singapore duo of Shaheed Alam and Sherwin Foo and prevailed in the super tiebreaker, 10-8, to rule the 16-team main draw. Masabayashi and Yamada, who were seeded fourth in the doubles contest, cruised past the second-ranked Foo and Alam in the opening set, 6-3, but failed to close out the finals early when the Singaporean pair came back in the second set with an impressive 6-1 victory to send the match to the super tiebreaker.

The finals was Alam and Foo's third consecutive match that went the distance. In the semifinals in the lower half of the draw, they topped Rimpei Kawakami and Kazuki Shimizu, 2-6, 6-4 (10-6), to foil an all-Japanese title match. Earlier in the quarterfinals, the Singapore bets also pulled off a 1-6, 6-1 (10-6) triumph against Japan's Shinsji Hazawa and James Trotter.

Masabayashi and Yamada came from a super tiebreaker victory, too in the semifinals, stunning the top-ranked pair of Jesse Delaney of Australia and China's Ching Lam, 2-6, 6-4 (10-6).

Meanwhile, the unranked duo of Sakura Hondo and Ayano Shimizu won the all-Japan finals in the girls division. They swept compatriots and fellow unseeded players Funa Kozaki and Yuki Naito, 6-4, 6-4.

The eventual champions took the finals berth at the top half of the draw without a sweat, as they won via walkover against Hong Kong's Kwan Wun Man and Japan's Makoto Ohara.

Naito and Kozaki, on the other hand, eliminated the second-ranked team of Nagomi Higashitani and Ayumi Hirata, 7-5, 6-3, at the lower half of the draw to march into the finals. Naito and Kozaki challenged Hondo and Shimizu in the finals just a few hours after the doubles teammates collided in the girls singles semifinals last Saturday.

ing something new and setting a path," he said.

Rabauliman, whose fastball is in the mid 90s, compiled a 6-1 record with a 3.09 ERA in the season that earned him a second team selection on the NWAC Western Division.

ICBBL 2015 Awards Ceremony

PHOTOS By JON PEREZ



Joeten Enterprises players Ferdie Tobias, left, and Jun Sambile receive the third place trophy in the Inter-Commercial Business Basketball League 2015 awards ceremony last Tuesday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.



Fiesta ruled the inaugural season of the ICBBL with a 75-71 upset win over top seed and previously undefeated PIC in the championship.



The pennant champions Pacific Islands Club-Saipan.



IT&E's Jason Palacios topped the steals department with an average of 3.8 per game.



Saipan Ice's John Santy won the King of Swat awards with an average of 2.6 blocks per game.



Saipan Ice's Ben Olopai looks at his trophy after receiving his top rebounder award with a 12.5 per game average.



Finals MVP Matt Duenas.



Mythical Team members, from left, Jason Palacios, John Santy, Ben Olopai, Preston Basa, and Elmer Esdrelon.



Fiesta Resort & Spa-Saipan's Elmer Esdrelon, right, was the league's top passer with 4.8 assists per game.



Regular season most valuable player Preston Basa.



**MHS bets win;
SSHS, KHS top
teams**

PAGE 26

Saipan Tribune Sports

28 TUESDAY, MAY 26, 2015

**LeBron's triple-
double helps
Cavs top Hawks
in thriller**

PAGE 24



SAIPAN TRIBUNE



ROSELYN B. MONROY

Tan Holdings FC's Emmanuel Aniana, left, steps in to battle MP United's Kyle Chung, center, for possession, while the latter's teammate Alex Park stay in the play during the second half of their title game in the boys U18 division of the NMIFA youth league last Sunday at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.

Tan Holdings bags U18 title

By ROSELYN B. MONROY
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REPORTER

Tan Holdings Football Club nosed out rival MP United FC in a rubber match, 2-1, to clinch the boys U18 division title in the 2015 NMIFA Youth Spring League last Sunday at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.



Cosmos Kim and Joel Fruit delivered the needed goals in the weekend match to give Tan Holdings its first boys U18 championship and end MP United's two-year and four-season reign.

Kim was at the right place at the right time in the 23rd minute of the close

See TAN on Page 26

Rabauliman is a man on a mission

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER



Saipan native Jeremy Rabauliman is dreaming and hoping to someday become the first Pacific Islander to pitch in the Major League.

"I'm on a mission and I want my goals to come true," Rabauliman said in an interview by *The Daily News* of Lower Columbia, Washington.

"I'm putting all of my chips on the table, and my family and everyone back home is investing in me. I want to be a good role model and someone people back home will look up to and know I'm legit," the former Saipan Little Leaguer added.

Rabauliman and the Lower Columbia College Red Devils are competing in the Northwest Athletic Conference Baseball Championship that started on May 21 and will end on May 25 at LCC's David Story Field.

The Douglas Royals, Edmonds Tritons, Everett Trojans, Mount Hood Saints, Tacoma Titans, Treasure Valley Chukars, and the Walla Walla Warriors are the other teams that made it to the finals.

Rabauliman will end his junior college career where he is also hoping to help the Red Devils, who will face the Mt. Hood Saints in the NWAC Tournament finals on Monday at 3:30pm local time, clinch the title.

"Our national sport is baseball. No one from Saipan has ever made it past junior college baseball, and I want to

See RABAULIMAN on Page 26

Robert, Diana reclaim May Masters crowns



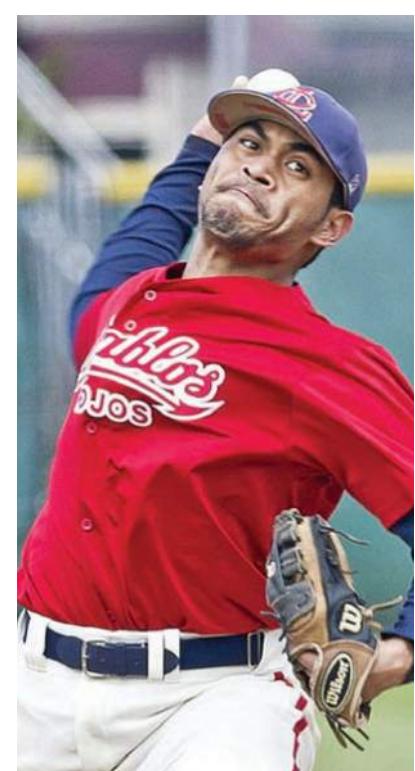
By ROSELYN B. MONROY
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REPORTER

Veterans Robert Talavera and Diana Camacho regained the championship they lost last year after topping the 33rd CNMI May Masters Tournament held over the weekend at the Saipan Bowling Center.

Talavera, who took the 2013 title but finished only third behind champion Alex Castro and Rusty Musca, prevailed in an 18-player field this year after collecting 2,441 pinfalls in 12 games. The 2015 champion solidified his bid to get back on top after a strong finish in the men's division contest.

The SBC employee knocked down 200-plus pins in the last four games (224, 202, 201, and 207) for a 75-pinfall winning margin against Percy Omechelang (2,366). Talavera averaged 203.42 in the 12-game roll-off

See ROBERT on Page 26



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Jeremy Rabauliman is carrying the hopes of an entire island nation of someday seeing him pitch in the Big Leagues.

Robert Talavera, left, and Diana Camacho, pose with their trophies and cash prizes during the awards ceremony for the 33rd CNMI May Masters Tournament last Sunday at the Nami Bar of Kanoa Resort.